

BIODIVERSITY REGISTER
KAYRAVATTOM CAMPUS
UNIVERSITY OF KERALA

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Prof. (Dr.) Suhara Beevy S.

Co- Principal Investigator
Prof. Dr. M. Kamarudeen (Late)

Department of Botany
University of Kerala

June 2021

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Acknowledgement

We are thankful to Kerala University for providing financial support to prepare the Biodiversity Register of the Kariavattom Campus. The support and necessary facilities provided by Head, Dept. of Botany, University of Kerala, Kariavattom, Thiruvananthapuram for the successful completion of the project is gratefully acknowledged. We are grateful to Dr. N. Mohanan, Senior Scientist (Rtd), JNTBGRI, Palode and presently Senior advisor, M. S. Swaminathan Foundation, Wayanad, Dr. Koshy K. C., Senior Scientist (Rtd), JNTBGRI, Palode, and Dr. Mathew P.J. Senior Scientist (Rtd), JNTBGRI and presently Emeritus scientist, Department of Botany, University of Kerala for the help rendered in identifying several plant species documented during the present investigation. We are indebted to Dr. R. Dileepkumar, former student, Department of Zoology, University of Kerala and presently Chairman and Trustee, Indrium Foundation, Thiruvananthapuram, the researchers and students of Zoology Department, University of Kerala namely Vishnu K. P., Christopher John Issac, Abhishek Sebastian Peter, Anasooya Anand and Dr. Lakshmi M., Guest Lecturer, Department of Botany, University of Kerala for the photographic assistance rendered by them during this study.

Principal Investigator

INTRODUCTION

Biodiversity Register (BR) is a document which contains comprehensive information on locally available Bio-resources including landscape and demography of a particular area. Bio-resources mean plants, animals and micro-organisms or parts thereof, their genetic material and by-products (excluding value added products) with actual or potential use or value. Its preparation requires survey and sampling, seasonal variation and species availability, Collection of specimen/photograph etc. BRs is not a mere documentation exercise but beused to develop an agenda for conservation action. These serve as Biodiversity impactassessment tool for developmental activities. BR emphasizes on sustainable management of bio resources and ways to accrue benefits to the community. People's Biodiversity Registers

(PBR) document folk knowledge of status, uses, history, ongoing changes and forces driving changes in biodiversity resources, and people's perceptions of how these resources should be managed. A number of PBRs have been prepared in different parts of India beginning through initiatives of NGOs and educational institutions working with local communities and village councils. In Kerala, the State Biodiversity Board has prepared the People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) in all the 1034 local bodies viz., 941 Grama Panchayats, 87 Municipalities and 6 Corporations. These documents bring together important locality specific information on biodiversity resources and ecological processes affecting them. They lead to recognition of conservation oriented local practices such as protection of sacred groves. Programmes like PBRs will have an important role to play in promoting conservation, sustainable use and equitable sharing of benefits of biodiversity resources in coming decades. In view of these, an attempt is made here to prepare a Biodiversity Register of Kariavattom Campus, University of Kerala. Such a comprehensive attempt is not yet attempted, except a few reports on animals or plants.

Kariavattom campus of the University of Kerala is located in the outskirts of the Trivandrum city. The campus is blessed with a rich biodiversity which is due to the specialties of its habitats. Presently the campus covers an area of about 350 acres, out of which around 100 acres are untouched forests. These forests accounts for one of the most diverse habitats of the district. The campus is divided into south (main) and north by National Highway. Before the acquisition of land for campus, it was human inhabited areas. By around 40 years of natural processes these lands have recouped to its natural ecosystem with its huge diversity.

But due to unscientific activities as part of development, such as construction of roads, building etc. this biodiversity is being depleted day by day. The major supporting system behind the diversity of campus is its untouched forests. Sixty percent of land in South campus and 30 percent of land in north campus was occupied by Acacia plants. The well wooded areas composed of natural vegetation is more than 50 acres of land. One of the major reasons behind this species richness is the variety in habitats including urban, semi urban, marshes, wetlands such as ponds, and semi forest including sacred groves (Figs.1-3). Different types of organisms including rare plant species, migrating birds, butterflies, dragon and damsel flies, snakes and mammals share these habitats in different times. Hence, conservation of the habitat is essential to preserve the wealth of biodiversity.



The Hymavathi Pond in South Campus

Ponds are important hotspots for biodiversity. Collectively, they support more species, and more scarce species, than any other freshwater habitat. They provide drinking water during dry weather, a supply of insect and plant-based food, such as zooplankton and phytoplankton for other aquatic organisms, shelter among the emergent and surrounding plants and trees and provide a much-needed refuge for birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and flying insects. The beneficial effects of ponds would be far reaching, improving water quality, reducing water and soil loss from fields, and providing generations to come with places to

explore the wonder of nature. Despite this, very little research has been conducted on ponds and their ecological value. The natural forests of the campus are located to the nearby these areas of these wetlands.

The sacred grove in the north campus hosts several lianas including the rare species of the gymnosperm plant *Gnetum edule* (Willd.) Blume and also several species of ferns such as



A view from the Sacred grove in North campus

Adiantum latifolium Lam. Sacred groves are tracts of virgin forest with rich diversity, which have been protected by the local people for centuries for their cultural and religious beliefs. An inextricable link between present society and past in terms of biodiversity, culture, religious and ethnic heritage exists in sacred groves. Sacred groves act as an ideal centre for biodiversity conservation. Several plants and animals that are threatened in the forest are still well conserved in some of the sacred groves. It has been observed that several medicinal plants that are not to be found in the forest are abundant in the sacred groves. Further, rare, endangered, threatened and endemic species are often concentrated in sacred groves.

The sacredness, religious beliefs and taboos play a significant role in promoting sustainable utilization and conservation of flora and fauna of the region. A holistic understanding of the current status, structure and function of sacred grove is essential for assessing their ecological role and formulating strategies for their conservation.

Acacia plantations have been in this area for around 30 years. These plantations in the north campus provide home to colonies or camps of the frugivorous bats namely the Indian flying fox. Acacia plants are actually a menace to the ecosystem. It negatively affects the water table. Due to allelopathic chemicals produced by its roots it prevents the undergrowth in areas of these plantations. However, its removal may cause some deleterious effects on the faunal diversity.



***Acacia* harbouring bats in the north campus**

The marshy lands play an important role in maintaining the integrity of the ecosystem. Thus, all the biodiversity of the campus is concentrated around these marshes. Earlier these were paddy fields, this land was kept untouched for around 25 years. This has made the regrowth of natural vegetations and a succession system which holds the major part of biodiversity.



A marsh in South Campus

In a whole sense we need to conserve the biodiversity of the campus on par with the development of the campus. It is home for thousands of organisms which are rare. The present study is an effort to document the maximum number of species found in the campus as a Biodiversity register. Some species may yet to be explored or will migrate in to the campus from time to time which can be added to this register in the coming years. This documentation is based on a survey conducted during the period 2019-2020. The survey documented 177 plants, 45 arthropods (mainly comprising butterflies and dragon flies) and vertebrates including 12 reptiles, 20 birds and two mammals.

The Biodiversity Register encompasses the Campus flora followed by the fauna. All the organisms are listed in alphabetical order based on their binomial names. Each plant species is provided with a short account containing common names, local names, family, a brief description including important morphological characters, habitat and ecology, nativity and flowering and fruiting period, parts used, traditional uses, biological activity, other uses, if any, and the specific locality within the campus. Animal species are provided with a short account containing common names, local names, Class, Order and family to which they belong followed by a brief description of the species and the specific place in the campus from where they are located. Photographs are provided for each species to further illustrate the features of the species. A consolidated list of localities within the campus from where the species are located is given in the end as Appendix 1.

CAMPUS FLORA

Abrus precatorius L. Gaertn.

Common name: Rosary pea

Malayalam name: കുന്തി

Family: Fabaceae

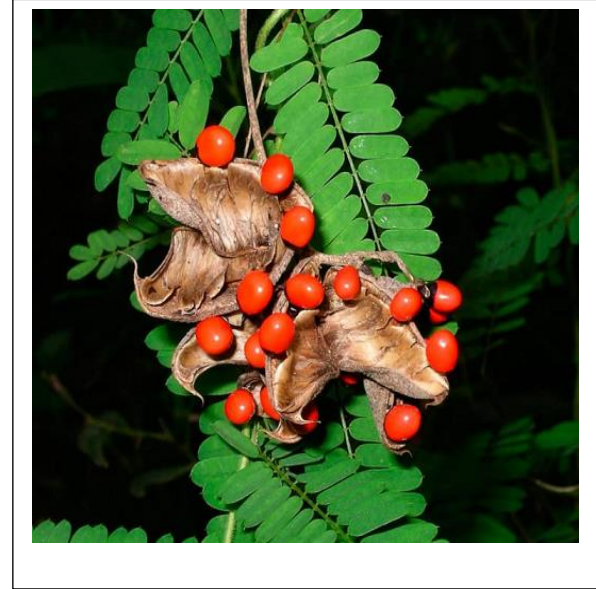
Description: *A. precatorius* is an ornamental, twining, woody vine growing wild throughout all tropical forests. The plant is native to Asia and Australia. Fl. & Fr. October-May

Useful part: Roots, leaves, seeds

Traditional uses: Used to treat tetanus, and to prevent rabies

Biological activity: Neuromuscular effects, neuro-protective, abortifacient, antiepileptic, anti-viral, anti-malarial, antifertility, nephroprotective, immunomodulator, immunostimulatory, anti-inflammatory, antidiabetic

Locality: Medicinal Garden, Botany Department



Acacia auriculiformis A. Cunn. ex Benth.

Common name: Australian wattle

Malayalam name: അക്കേഷ്യ

Family: Fabaceae

Description: Introduced from Australia by the forest department as a fast-growing species primarily in monoculture energy plantations. In high rainfall areas the species becomes invasive dispersed by birds. Evergreen trees, Leaf like modified leaf stalk, without mid rib. Fl. December- January Fr. February- March

Useful part: Bark, wood

Traditional uses: A decoction of the root is used to treat aches and pains and sore eyes. An infusion of the bark has been used to treat rheumatism, diarrhoea and dysentery, and can also be helpful in cases of internal bleeding.

Biological activity: The effects and benefits of *A. auriculiformis* on health are not well established.

Other uses: The plant is a major source of firewood. New technology allows the use of the wood for making panels and furniture. A natural dye, used in the batik textile industry in Indonesia, is also extracted from the bark.

Locality: Whole campus



Adenanthera pavonina L.

Common name: Coral wood

Malayalam name: മഞ്ചാടി

Family: Fabaceae

Description: A large deciduous tree, leaves bipinnate, native to India and Malaysia. Fl. & Fr. March-June, May- August

Useful part: Bark, leaves

Traditional uses: A decoction of the leaves is used in the treatment of rheumatism and gout. The bark is used to treat leprosy. A decoction of the bark and leaves is used to treat dysentery, diarrhoea and tonsillitis. The wood is used as a tonic. The pulverized wood, mixed with water, is taken orally for treating migraines and headaches

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antifungal, antioxidant, cytotoxic, hypotensive

Locality: Campus Ooty, Hymavathi pond area



Adiantum latifolium Lam.

Common name: Broadleaf maiden hair fern

Family: Pteridaceae

Description: Terrestrial herb with long creeping, densely scaly rhizome, native to Tropical America. Reproduction through spores

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: Wound healing, rejuvenation

Biological activity: Antibacterial, larvicidal

Locality: Sacred grove, North Campus



Agave americana L.

Common name: Century plant

Malayalam name: അഗവ്വെക്കര

Family: Asparagaceae

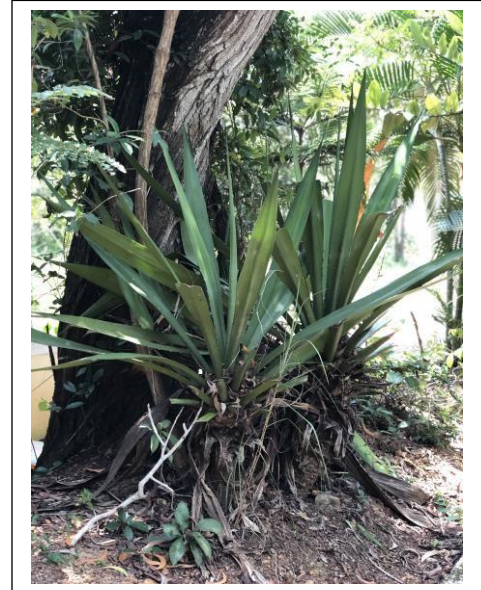
Description: A large evergreen and stemless succulent, with a rosette of sharply pointed leaves that can grow up to 1 m, native to Mexico and United States. Fl. & Fr. monocarpic, in about 30 years

Useful part: Sap, roots

Traditional uses: The sap of agaves used as a binding agent for various powders used as poultices on wounds. The sap can also be taken internally in the treatment of diarrhoea, dysentery etc. The sap is antiseptic, diaphoretic, diuretic, emmenagogue and laxative. The root is diaphoretic and diuretic

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, antioxidant, antifertility

Locality: Botany and Computational Biology Departments



Ageratum conyzoides L.

Common name: Goat weed

Malayalam name: വേനപ്പച്ച

Family: Asteraceae

Description: It is an erect softly hairy annual plant native to tropical America, considered as an invasive weed. Fl. & Fr. July- September

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: In Central Africa it is used to treat pneumonia, but the most common use is to cure wounds and burns. Traditional communities in India use this species as a bactericide, antidysenteric. In Cameroon and Congo, traditional use is to treat fever, rheumatism, headache, and colic.

Biological activity: Insecticidal, nematocidal, analgesic, antispasmodic

Locality: Botany and Computational Biology Departments



Ailanthus excelsa Roxb.

Common name: Tree od Heaven

Malayalam name: പെരുമുരം

Family: Simaroubaceae

Description: A large deciduous tree indigenous to Southern and Central India. Fl. From December - March & Fr. from March- July

Useful part: Bark, wood

Traditional uses: The bark is a febrifuge and can be used as a treatment against asthma, bronchitis and dysentery. The leaves and bark are a good tonic that is used after labour. The juice of the leaves and fresh bark is used as a remedy for after-pains.

Biological activity: Antibacterial

Other uses: The tree is also used in matchstick industry and as a fodder for goats

Locality: Botany Department



Alpinia calcarata L. Willd.

Common name: Snap ginger

Malayalam name: ചിറ്റരത്ന

Description: A rhizomatous perennial herb, native to India, cultivated in tropical countries, including Sri Lanka, India, and Malaysia; The mature rhizomes are branched and dense with a light to dark brown colour. Flower terminal, in dense terminal panicles. Fl. & Fr. May- December

Useful part: Rhizome

Traditional Uses: Commonly used in the traditional medicinal systems in Sri Lanka for the treatment of indigestion, impurities of blood, throat inflammation, voice improvement and to marinate youthful vigour, cough, respiratory ailments, bronchitis, asthma, arthritis, and diabetics

Biological activity: Rhizomes possess antioxidant, antibacterial, antifungal, anthelmintic, antinociceptive, anti-inflammatory, aphrodisiac, gastroprotective, and antidiabetic activities.

Locality: Medicinal Garden, Botany Department



Alternanthera brasiliana (L.) Kuntze

Common name: Brazilian joyweed

Malayalam name: : ചുവന്ന ചീര, ക്രോട്ടൺ ചീര

Family: Amaranthaceae

Description: Native to Southern and Northern America; Is an erect, herbaceous plant that can grow up to 3 meters tall. The plant is sometimes harvested from the wild for local use as a food and medicine. It is often grown as an ornamental. Fl & Fr. Throughout the year

Useful part: Whole plant, particularly leaves

Traditional uses: Traditionally, the plant is used as a galactagogue, cholagogue, abortifacient and febrifuge. Rural communities use it as medicinal agent to cure different diseases, such as inflammation, wound healing, cough and diarrhoea

Biological activity: Analgesic, antitumor activity, immunomodulator and lymphocyte proliferative, antimicrobial activity

Locality: Botany Department



Alternanthera sessilis (L.) R. Br. Ex DC.

Common name: Sessile Joyweed

Malayalam name: പൊന്നങ്ങാണി

Family: Amaranthaceae

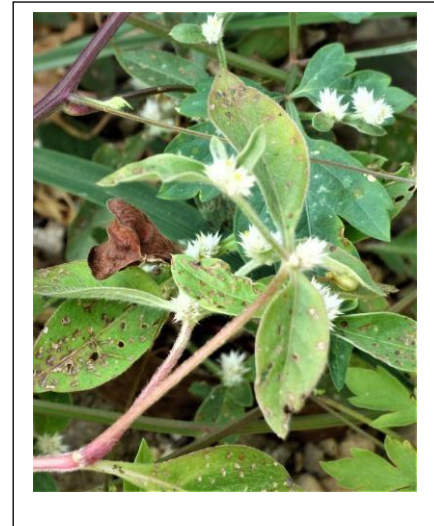
Description: *A. sessilis* is a perennial herb with prostrate stems, often rooting at the nodes. It is an invasive plant species that can grow in a variety of habitats. In aquatic systems, *A. sessilis* can block irrigation pipes and water channels. The species is native to Brazil. Flowers in sessile spikes; Fl & Fr. Throughout the year

Useful part: Stems, leaves

Traditional uses: Useful in eye trouble, decoction with little salt drunk to check vomiting of blood. Shoot with other ingredients used to restore virility; poultice used for boils

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory, anti-hepatic,

Locality: Way to Campus Ooty



Alysicarpus vaginalis (L.) DC

Common name: One leaved clover

Malayalam name: നിലക്കാരില

Family: Fabaceae

Description: is a low growing annual to short lived herbaceous perennial legume native to part of Africa and Asia. Fl. & Fr. July- December

Useful part: Whole plant, roots, and seeds individually

Traditional uses: A decoction of the roots is used as a treatment against coughs, roots are also chewed as a treatment for fevers. An infusion of the powdered seeds is used as a remedy for dysentery and colic. The whole plant is used medicinally for treating sword wounds and bone fractures.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, anticancer

Locality: Botany Department



Anacardium occidentale L.

Common name: Cashew tree

Malayalam name: കശുമാവ്

Family: Anacardiaceae

Description: A tropical evergreen tree that produces the cashew seed and the cashew apple. It is a native to Central America, the Caribbean Islands, northern South America, including the northern and north-eastern regions of Brazil. Fl. & Fr. January- March

Useful part: Bark, leaves, fruits

Traditional uses: Leaf and bark infusions are used in the treatment of toothache and sore gums, whilst the bark and leaf extracts and fruit juice are taken internally to treat diarrhoea. The fruit is anti-scorbutic, astringent and diuretic. Cashew syrup is a good remedy for coughs and colds.

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anticancer

Locality: Whole campus



Anamirta cocculus (L. Wight & Arn)

Common Name: Poison Berry
Malayalam names: ആനയമുക്ത

Family: Menispermaceae

Description: A Southeast Asian and Indian large, dioecious woody climbing plant; Stem scramble over the ground and twine into other plants for support; The plant is not usually cultivated but is often harvested from the wild for its medicinal uses. Fl. & Fr. September- March

Useful part: Fruits and roots

Traditional uses: Its fruits are listed in the Pharmacopoeias of various countries. Fruit and seeds contain picrotoxin used intravenously as an antidote against poisoning by barbiturates and morphine, serves as a nervine tonic in schizophrenia and epilepsy. Roots used to treat fevers, dyspepsia, and menstrual problems. Lotion made from fruits used to kill lice on the skin of animals.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, anthelmintic, antiulcer activities

Locality: Botany Department



Andrographis paniculata (Burm. f.) Nees

Common name: Creat or green chireta

Malayalam name: കിരിയാത്ത്

Family: Acanthaceae

Description: One of the highly used potential medicinal plants in the world, generally known as king of bitters. It is an annual herbaceous plant, native to India and Sri Lanka. Fl. & Fr. September-December

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: Used for the treatment of diseases such as cancer, diabetes, high blood pressure, ulcer, leprosy, bronchitis, skin diseases, flatulence, colic, influenza, dysentery, dyspepsia, and malaria for centuries

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antifungal, antioxidant

Locality: Whole campus



Ananas comosus L. Merr.

Common name: Pineapple

Malayalam name: കൈതച്ചക്ക

Family: Bromeliaceae

Description: A tropical plant with an edible fruit and the most economically significant plant. It is considered an herbaceous, monocot perennial plant, **native to** South America. Peak Fl.& Fr. period is from January - March

Useful part: Fruits, leaves

Traditional uses: When unripe, the fruit improves digestion, increases appetite, relieves dyspepsia, and relieves discomfort from sore throats. When ripe, the fruit helps in reducing excessive gastric acid. It is also used as a laxative for relieving constipation due to its significant fiber content. The fruit juice is diuretic, and is used to apply to burns, itches, and boils. The leaves used as treatment for fractures and for easing painful periods.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antioxidant

Other uses: Commercially valuable edible fruits

Locality: Botany Department, Campus Ooty



Annona reticulata Linn.

Common name: Bullock's heart

Malayalam name: ആരത

Family: Annonaceae

Description: Fast-growing trees, Native of Central America, and West Indies. Fl. & Fr. Fruiting May-August, Fruit an aggregate of berry

Useful part: Fruits, leaves

Traditional uses: Leaves used internally against worms, and externally to treat abscesses. Unripe fruits and the bark rich in tannin used to treat diarrhoea and dysentery. Root decoction taken as a febrifuge.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antifungal, antioxidant, insecticidal

Other uses: Fruits eaten raw

Locality: Botany Department



Arachis pintoi Krapov. & W. C. Gregory

Common name: Wild groundnut

Malayalam name: കാട്ടുനിലകടല

Family: Fabaceae

Description: A wild perennial relative of the groundnut, native to Brazil. The plant has stoloniferous habit and subterranean seed production. Stems at first prostrate and then ascend. Fl. & Fr. Throughout growing season

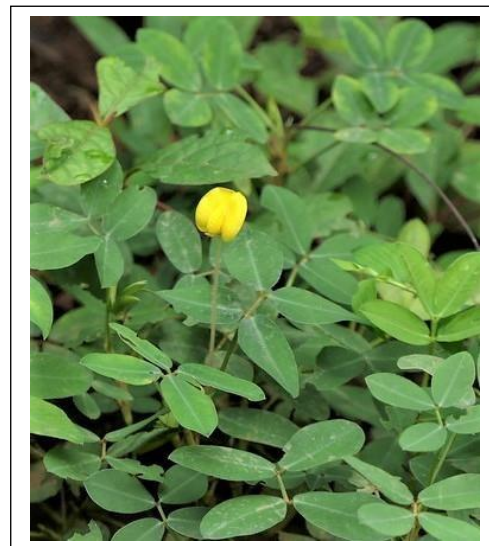
Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: None known

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antioxidant

Other uses: Pinto peanut is mainly used as a pasture legume for grazing

Locality: Botany Department



Ardisia elliptica Thunb. (= *A. littoralis* Andr.)

Common name: Shoe button ardisia, Coral berry

Malayalam name: കാട്ടുതൊട

Family: Primulaceae

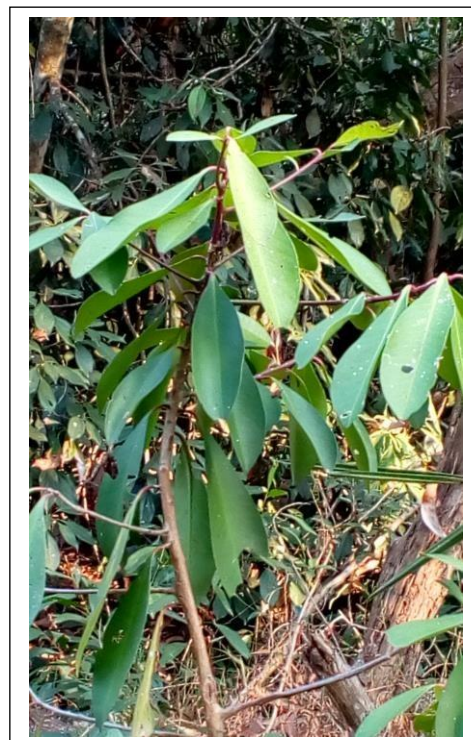
Description: A shrub or a small tree with smooth stem, native to the west coast of India, Sri Lanka, Indochina, Malaysia, Indonesia and new Guinea; Fl. & Fr. throughout the year. Its fast growth and attractive fruit made it a popular ornamental plant

Useful part: Roots, leaves, fruits

Traditional uses: The roots are used medicinally at childbirth. A decoction of the leaves is said to assuage retrosternal pains. The leaves are used to soothe and heal wounds. Leaves are used to soothe and heal wounds.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antidiarrheal, antiviral, antiplatelet

Locality: Environmental Biology Department



Areca catechu L.

Common name: Areca palm, betel palm

Malayalam name: കമുക്.

Family: Arecaceae

Description: Stem erect, hooped, unarmed. Leaves in a terminal crow, native to the Malaysian peninsula and Philippines. Fl. & Fr. throughout the year

Useful part: Leaves, nut

Traditional uses: Both leaves and nuts are used for the treatment of diarrhoea, dropsy, sunstroke, beriberi, throat inflammations, edema, lumbago, bronchial catarrh, anaemia, fits, leucoderma, leprosy, obesity, worms and urinary disorders.

Biological activity: Antihypertensive, diuretic, prohealing, **antibacterial**, hypoglycaemic, antiheartburn

Other uses: The seed has mild narcotic properties, it is widely used in some areas of the tropics as a masticatory, being mixed with the leaves of a pepper plant (*Piper betle*), a gum and, often, lime.

Locality: Sacred groves, North Campus



Asparagus racemosus Willd

Common name: Satavar; Indian asparagus

Malayalam name: ശതാവരി

Family: Asparagaceae

Description: Native to the Himalayas in India; Woody perennial climbers; stem often spinescent, rootstock with fascicled tuberous roots; flowers white. Fl. & Fr. June-July

Useful part: Tuberous roots

Traditional uses: A natural cough remedy in West Bengal, India, a folk remedy for diarrhoea and dysentery, headache, an aphrodisiac, treatment of gonorrhoea, leucorrhoea and menstrual complaints, bleeding nose etc.

Biological activity: thrombolytic, membranestabilizing agent, antimicrobial and antioxidant. Anti-HIV, anti-inflammatory, boost immune system, antiulcerogenic, antiaging, antidepressant

Locality: Botany Department



Asystasia gangetica (L.) T. Anderson

Common name: Chinese Scarlet

Malayalam name: തുപ്പലംപൊട്ടി

Family: Acanthaceae

Description: Native range Tropical Africa and E. Asia; A perennial plant with weak stems. Fl. & Fr. November- April

Useful part: Roots, leaves

Traditional uses: The juice of the plant, combined with lime and onion juice, is recommended for dry cough. Leaf-decoction is used in the treatment of fever-aches, epilepsy, asthma, stomach-pains, heart-pains, and urethral discharge. The pulped leaf is used as a suppository for piles. The powdered roots are a general remedy for stomach-pains and are used as an emetic in treating snakebite.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, anti-inflammatory. Insecticidal and antifungal activities

Locality: Whole campus



Averrhoa carambola L.

Common name: Carambola

Malayalam name: അമ്പലമുളിഞ്ചി

Family: Oxalidaceae

Description: A small evergreen tree or shrub with pink flowers, native to Southeast Asia and Indian sub-continent. Fl. & Fr. July- August

Useful part: Leaves, flowers, seeds

Traditional uses: Used in traditional medicine for skin disorders and fevers. It is valued by Chinese communities as a remedy for high blood pressure. The flowers are used to relieve coughs. The leaves are used to treat rheumatism. The seed is emmenagogue, galactagogue and abortifacient. The powdered seed is used for treating asthma, colic and jaundice.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, anti-inflammatory analgesic, antioxidant

Other uses: Ripe fruits eaten raw

Locality: Botany Department



Axonopus compressus (Sw.) P. Beauv.

Common name: Blanket grass

Malayalam name: ക്യാളപ്പല്ല

Family: Poaceae

Description: A robust creeping stoloniferous perennial grass that forms dense mats through spreading runners. It is a native to southern North America, Central America the Caribbean and South America. Fl. & Fr. throughout the year

Useful part: Whole plant

Uses: It is often used as a lawn, makes a good ground cover under tree crops, and can be used to stabilize the soil

Traditional uses: The whole plant is used as an ingredient in a curative herbal bath. The plant is used to treat heart problems

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, antioxidant

Locality: Whole campus



Bambusa vulgaris Schrad.

Common name: Yellow bamboo, tiger bamboo or painted bamboo

Malayalam name: മഞ്ഞമുള

Family: Poaceae

Description: An open-clump type bamboo species. It forms moderately loose clumps and has no thorns. It has lemon-yellow culms with green stripes and dark green leaves. It is native to Indochina and to the province of Yunnan in southern China. Flowering is not common, and there are no seeds.

Useful part: Stems, shoot

Traditional uses: The stems are used as a remedy for rheumatism. The shoots are used to treat abscesses and malaria. The bark is astringent and emmenagogue. The leaves are used to treat heart problems and malaria.

Biological activity: Antibacterial

Other uses: The split stems are used for making brooms, fences, roofs, roof tiles, baskets etc.

Locality: Centre for Evolutionary and Integrative biology (CEIB) compound



Bauhinia phoenicea Wight & Arn

Common name: Scarlet Bauhinia

Malayalam name: വളളിമന്ദാരം

Family: Fabaceae

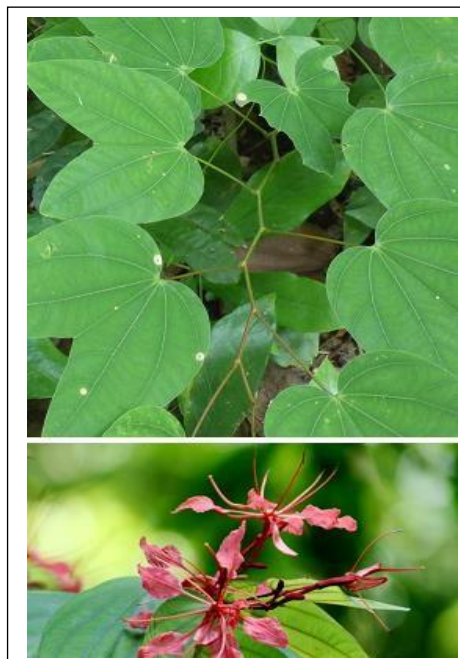
Description: A very interesting large climbing shrub found in the Western Ghats. Flower scarlet red in few flowered corymb inflorescences in leaf axils. Fl. January-March

Useful part: Whole plant, bark

Traditional uses: In traditional medicine, the plant is used against diabetes, skin allergies, fungal infections, and worm disturbances.

Biological activity: Bark of *B. phoenicea* has significant antimicrobial, anthelmintic and antioxidant properties

Locality: Botany Department



Bignonia unguis-cati L. (= *Dolichandra unguis-cati* (L.) L.G. Lohmann)

Common name: Cat's claw climber

Family: Bignoniaceae

Description: A vigorous woody climbing vine, native to South America. Central America and Caribbean. The terminal leaflet is modified into 3 fid tendrils which hold on to rough surface of the wall hence the name. Fl. & Fr. throughout the year

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: widely used in folk medicine as an anti-inflammatory, antimalarial and antivenereal.

Biological activity: Anticancer, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, anti-insect, anti-protozoal, antipyretic, and analgesic

Locality: Botany Department



Biophytum veldkampii A. E. S. Khan & al

Common name: Sensitive plant

Malayalam name: മുക്കുറ്റി

Family: Oxalidaceae

Description: A small annual herb endemic to Kerala state; found in Wastelands and moist deciduous forests in southern Western Ghats (Kerala); Fl. and Fr. throughout the year

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: Used in Ayurveda, Unani and Folk medicines. It is one of the constituents of Dasapushpam, an Ayurvedic formulation. In Ayurveda its powder is used for the treatment of gonorrhoea, lithiasis, amenorrhoea and dysmenorrhoea; powder with honey for abnormal growths, glandular swellings, especially for hypothyroidism; In Siddha system, the grounded leaves with butter milk given for diarrhoea, grounded seeds applied over wound and ulcer, the samoolam of this plant with honey given for cough and chest congestion, and leaf paste applied over burns

Biological activity: induction of apoptosis, anticancer, antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, antitumor, radioprotective, chemoprotective, antimetastatic, antiangiogenic, wound healing and immunomodulation

Locality: Whole campus



Brachiaria ramosa (L.) Stapf

Common name: Brown top millet

Malayalam name: ചാമപൊതുവൽ

Family: Poaceae

Description: Decumbent annuals found in moist places, native to Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia and India. Fl. & Fr. March- September

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: None known

Biological activity: Antifungal

Other uses: The plant is used to suppress root-knot nematode populations

Locality: Whole campus in moist places



Breynia retusa (Dennest)Alston

Common name: Cup Saucer Plant

Malayalam name: പെരുമ്പിരൂരി

Family: Phyllanthaceae

Description: Shrubs, native to south east Asia, China **Fl. & Fr.** February-September

Useful part: Bark, leaves, roots, seeds.

Traditional uses: Used to treat inflammations and diseases of the blood. Root crushed in water and applied on inflammation. It is also effective as astringent to the bowels. Leaf, flower and fruit crushed to prepare paste and applied on abscesses. The juice of the stem is used in conjunctivitis.

Biological activity: Anti-inflammatory, hyperglycemic, antidiarrhoeal, astringent and diuretic, anti-arthritis

Locality: Language block



Cajanus scarabaeoides (L.) Thouars

Common name: Peanut grass, showy pigeon pea

Malayalam Name: കാട്ടുമുരിര

Family: Fabaceae

Description: A trailing herb with trifoliate leaves and velvety pods; flowers pale yellow, it is native to both temperate and tropical zones including India. **Fl. & Fr.** September- January.

Useful part: whole plant, stem, leaf, whole plant, root, fruits and seeds

Traditional uses: Used for improving digestion and diuresis used in the treatment of night fevers, renal stones, eye diseases, dropsy, anaemia, burns and wounds, small-pox, syphilis, gonorrhoea, cholera, diarrhoea, dysentery, snake-bite and rinderpest.

Biological activity: Anti-filarial, antioxidant, antifeedant, wound healing, anti-diabetic, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, hepatoprotective, antidiarrhoeal, anthelmintic, antibacterial

Locality: Botany Department



Calopogonium mucunoides Desv.

Common name: Calopo

Malayalam name: കാട്ടുപയർ

Family: Fabaceae

Description: A vigorous, creeping, twining or trailing, short-lived perennial herb, native to Tropical America. Fl. & Fr. December- March

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: None known

Biological activity: Anti-ulcer, herbicidal

Locality: Botany Department



Calotropis gigantea (L.) W. T. Aiton

Common name: Giant milkweed

Malayalam name: എറുക്ക്

Family: Apocynaceae

Description: Native to Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Sri Lanka, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, Tropical Africa. Fl. & Fr. November- April

Useful part: Bark, leaves, flowers

Traditional uses: Bark is used as a medicine for the treatment of neurodermatitis and syphilis. It is diaphoretic and expectorant, Powdered bark is used to treat diarrhoea, dysentery, elephantiasis, and leprosy. An infusion of the leaves is used to treat severe chest colds and heart conditions. Powdered flowers are valued for treating coughs, colds and asthma

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, Antibacterial

Locality: Botany Department, Campus Ooty



Canthium angustifolium Roxb.

Common name: Narrow leaved canthium
Malayalam name: കട്ടുകാറമുളള്
Family: Rubiaceae
Description: Erect spiny shrubs; native to southern tropical Asia; **Distribution:** India, Bangladesh, Myanmar. **Fl. and Fr.** March-May
Useful part: Root, Leaf
Traditional uses: Used in folk medicine and Siddha. Leaf paste applied on swelling parts, root-bark anticephalgic, effective for epilepsy
Biological activity: Anti-fungal, anti-oxidant
Locality: Botany Department, way to Campus Ooty



Cardiospermum halicacabum L.

Common name: Balloon vine
Malayalam name: വള്ളിഉഴിഞ്ഞ
Family: Sapindaceae
Description: A woody perennial vine, climbing or trailing, distributed almost globally in the tropics. Capsules pyriform, winged at the angles; seeds with large heart shaped hilum. **Fl. & Fr.** September-December
Useful part: Root, leaf
Traditional uses: Root of is used in the form of powder to treat udara roga, rat-poisoning, snake-poisoning, cough with fever, scrotal enlargement, alopecia, memory booster, anaemia and jaundice.
Biological activity: Antimicrobial-antibacterial, antidiabetic
Locality: Whole Campus



Carica papaya L.

Common name: Pawpaw

Malayalam name: പപ്പായ

Family: Caricaceae

Description: A herbaceous succulent plant native to the tropics of the Americas, now widely cultivated in other tropical regions of the world. Fl. & Fr. Throughout the year

Useful part: All parts of the plant like leaves, fruits, seeds, flowers and roots

Traditional uses: Used for treatment of diseases like warts, corns, sinuses, eczema, cutaneous tubercles, glandular tumours, blood pressure, dyspepsia, constipation, amenorrhoea, expel worms and stimulate reproductive organs

Biological activity: Antifertility, contraceptive, anti-inflammatory, analgesic and antimicrobial

Other uses: Fruit edible-raw or cooked

Locality: Botany Department



Carissa carandas L.

Common name: Karanda, Christ's thorn

Malayalam name: കാരന്ധം

Family: Apocynaceae

Description: The karanda is a sprawling semi-vine shrub native to India. It is a hardy, drought-tolerant plant that thrives well in a wide range of soils. It produces berry-sized fruits that are commonly used as a condiment in Indian pickles and spices. Fl. March- April. & Fr. May-October

Useful part: Fruits

Traditional uses: Treatment of scabies, intestinal worms, biliousness, snake-bite, astringent, anaemia, stomach-ache, diarrhoea, rheumatism, earache, anthelmintic, anorexia, mouth ulcer, sore throat, fever, biliary dysfunction and also as appetizer

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, anti-fungal, analgesic, anti-inflammatory and anti-scorbutic, hepatoprotective, anticancer, antioxidant, antihyperlipidemic, antiviral, cytotoxic

Locality: Whole campus



Caryota urens L.

Common name: Toddy palm, Jaggery palm

Malayalam name: ചുണ്ടപ്പന

Family: Arecaceae

Description: A solitary-stemmed, evergreen palm native to Sri Lanka, India, Myanmar and Malaysia. Fl. & Fr. January- April

Useful part: Roots, bark, flowers, seeds

Traditional uses: A porridge prepared from the seed flour is prescribed by local physicians to treat gastric ulcers, migraine headaches, snake-bite poisoning and rheumatic swellings. The root is used for treating tooth ailments. The bark and seed are used to treat boils. The tender flowers are used for promoting hair growth.

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, antioxidant

Other uses: A very strong, fine, soft and durable fiber is obtained from the leaf bases. It is used to make a wide range of products, but especially brooms, brushes, ropes, baskets

Locality: Sacred groves, North campus



Cassia fistula Linn.

Common name: Indian Laburnam

Malayalam name: കണികൊന്ന

Family: Fabaceae

Description: A medium-sized, deciduous tree with drooping branchlets, Leafless when flowers, Dark brown fruit long and cylindrical resembling drumstick. The species is native to the Indian subcontinent and adjacent regions of Southeast Asia. Fl. April- June; Fr. December- April

Useful part: Root bark, leaves, flowers, fruits

Traditional uses: The ripe fruit, seeds, root bark, leaves and flowers laxative. Pods used as a remedy for malaria, blood poisoning, anthrax, diabetes and dysentery. Bark or leaves widely applied to skin problems. Heartwood anthelmintic.

Biological activity: antibacterial, anti-oxidant, anti-inflammatory, amoebicidal and cysticidal, wound healing

Locality: Botany Department, Geology Block



Cassia mimosoides L.

Common name: Feather-leaved cassia

Malayalam name: ചെറുതേക്കര

Family: Caesalpinaceae

Description: Glabrous shrubs or small trees, probably native to Africa. Fl. & Fr. October-November

Useful part: Root, leaf, whole plant

Traditional uses: Pounded and mixed with animal fat, applied topically or taken orally for fractures, cleaning of the uterus by pregnant women; used in diarrhoea, wound healing and mouth ulcers by tribal people

Biological activity: Anti-bacterial; cosmetic ingredient for skin conditioning

Locality: Botany Department



Cayratia pedata (Lam.) Gagnep

Common name: Birdfoot grape- vine

Malayalam name: വെളുത്ത ചൊറിവള്ളി

Family: Vitaceae

Description: *C. pedata* is a climbing plant, the stems climbing into the surrounding vegetation and attaching themselves by means of tendrils. Common in shrubberies, hedges, and waste places; The plant is harvested from the wild for local medicinal use. Fl. & Fr. October-November

Useful part: Whole plant except roots

Traditional uses: The whole plant (excluding the roots) has a low diuretic activity and has been used as a remedy for coughs, bronchitis, asthma, joint pain and to check uterine reflexes. The leaves are used as astringents.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, anti-arthritic, antioxidant

Locality: Botany Department



Centrosema molle Mart. Ex Benth.

Common name: Butterfly pea

Malayalam name: കട്ടുപയർ

Family: Fabaceae

Description: is a vigorous twining, trailing and climbing perennial legume. is native to Central and South America. It is a valuable legume forage for pasture, hay and silage. Commercial herbage cultivars have been developed. It is grown as a green manure in some parts of the tropics. Fl. & Fr. September-January

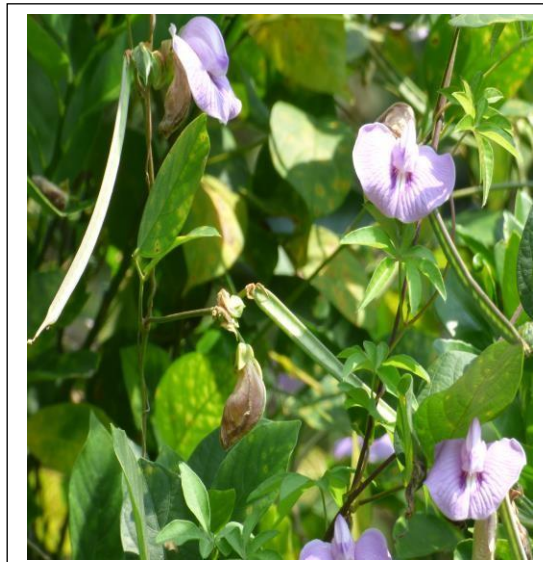
Useful part: Whole plant

Uses: It is widely used as forage and a source of protein. It is grown as a cover crop because it naturally suppresses weeds and is very tolerant to drought. Like other N fixing legumes, it is a soil improver.

Traditional uses: Not known

Biological activity: Antioxidant, anti-inflammatory

Locality: Whole campus



Chassalia curviflora (Wall.) Thwaites

Common name: Curved flower woody chassalia, long leaved chassalia

Malayalam name: യമരി

Family: Rubiaceae

Description: Erect evergreen subshrubs, native to South and East Asia. Fl. & Fr. March-September

Useful part: Roots, leaves

Traditional uses: Used to treat ear infection, eye diseases and insect bites

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antihypertensive, antioxidant, hepatoprotective

Locality: Sacred groves, North Campus



Chromolaena odorata (L.) R. M. King & H. Rob.

Common name: Siam weed

Malayalam name: കമ്യൂണിസ്റ്റ് പച്ച

Family: Asteraceae

Description: A rapidly growing perennial straggling shrub. This flowering shrub is native to north and central America. It is included in the top 100 of the world's most invasive species.

Fl. & Fr. November-May

Useful part: Aerial parts

Traditional uses: The several parts of this herb have been used to treat wounds, burns, and skin infections.

Biological activity: Leaf extract anti-inflammatory, anti-pyretic, analgesic, antimicrobial, cytotoxic, cryoprotective

Locality: Whole campus



Cleome burmanni Wight & Arn.

Common name: Asian spider flower

Malayalam name: കാട്ടുകടുകു

Family: Cleomaceae

Description: is an erect herb with small purple flowers and with siliquaceous fruits; Distributed in India, Indonesia (Java) and Sri Lanka. Flowering & Fruiting: February- August

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: Anthelmintic

Biological activity: Anti-inflammatory, cytotoxic, nutritional and antioxidant properties

Locality: Botany Department, SBI premises



Cleome viscosa L.

Common name: Wild mustard

Malayalam name: കടുകുകടുകു

Family: Cleomaceae

Description: It is a native of tropical America. It's considered an invasive species and it is widely distributed in warm and humid habitats across the Americas, Africa and Asia. Fl & Fr: February-July

Useful part: Leaves, fruits, seeds also whole plant

Uses: The plant is used as a cover plant and as a green manure

Traditional uses: Leaves used as external application to wounds and ulcers relieve rheumatism; seeds anthelmintic and carminative; juice of the leaves is used as a remedy against discharge of pus from the ear

Biological activity: Antimicrobial

Locality: Botany and Environmental Biology Departments



Clerodendrum infortunatum L.

Common name: Hill glory bower

Malayalam name: പെരികിലം

Family: Lamiaceae

Description: *C. infortunatum* is a flowering shrub or small tree, and is so named because of its rather ugly leaf. Fl. & Fr. Throughout the year

Useful part: Roots, leaves

Traditional uses: Used as tonic and anthelmintic agent in the country sides of North India. Used in Ayurveda, Unani system of medicine and Homeopathy for ailments like diarrhoea, skin disorders, piles, venereal and scrofulous complaints, wounds, post-natal complications, as vermifuge, laxative and cholagogue. Leaves and roots used for external applications on tumours. Percentage of haemoglobin increased due to leaf extract. Sugar percentage reduced in diabetic patient.

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, antioxidant and free radical scavenging activities

Locality: Botany Department, Way to campus Ooty



Clitoria ternatea L.

Common name: Butterfly pea

Malayalam name: ശിംഖുപുഷ്പം

Family: Fabaceae

Description: This plant is native to equatorial Asia. It is a short-lived perennial herbaceous climbing or trailing plant. Some varieties yield white flowers (*C. ternatea alba*). Fl & Fr. throughout the year.

Useful part: All parts

Traditional uses: In traditional Ayurveda medicine, it is ascribed various qualities including memory enhancing, antistress, anxiolytic, antidepressant, anticonvulsant, tranquilizing, and sedative

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, antibacterial, analgesic

Other uses: Used as food and a source for dye

Locality: Botany Department



Cocos nucifera L.

Common name: Coconut tree

Malayalam name: കേരളം

Family: Arecaceae

Description: *C. nucifera*, commonly called coconut or coconut palm, is a tall tree that is native to tropical islands in the western Pacific. Fl. & Fr. throughout the year

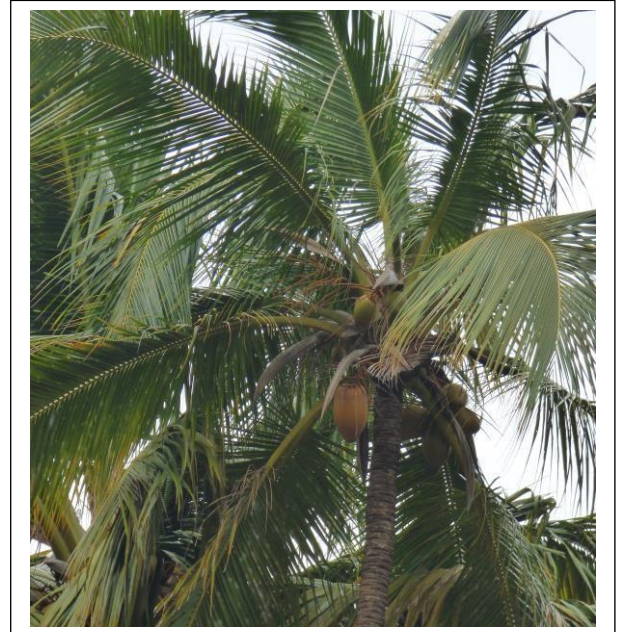
Useful part: All parts

Traditional uses: The seed oil cytotoxic, emetic, emollient, hypotensive and purgative. Coconut milk diuretic. Juice from the fruit used to treat kidney problems. The root employed in treating stomach-ache and blood in the urine. Root boiled in combination with *Ruellia tuberosa* root used for bladder ailments and as an aphrodisiac. The coconut has vermicide properties. Hemorrhaging stopped with the use of the dry, spongy kernel

Biological activity: Anti-inflammatory, anti-bacterial, anti- neoplastic, anti- diabetic

Other uses: Food edible, husk used for making coir

Locality: Whole campus



Commelina benghalensis L.

Common name: Bengal day flower

Malayalam name: കാണവാഴ,

വാഴപ്പടത്തി

Family: Commelinaceae

Description: It is a perennial herb native to tropical Asia and Africa. it is usually considered a weed. A dye is obtained from the sap in the flowers. Fl. & Fr. Throughout the year

Useful part: Rhizomes, roots, leaves, flowering spathe, flowers

Traditional uses: it is used as a medicinal herb that is said to have diuretic and febrifugal effects. it is used to cure swellings of the skin, leprosy and as a laxative.

Biological activity: anti-inflammatory

Locality: Botany Department, Near paddy fields in Campus Ooty



Corchorus acutangulus Lam

Common name: Wild jute, East Indian mallow

Malayalam name: അരേണുകം

Family: Malvaceae

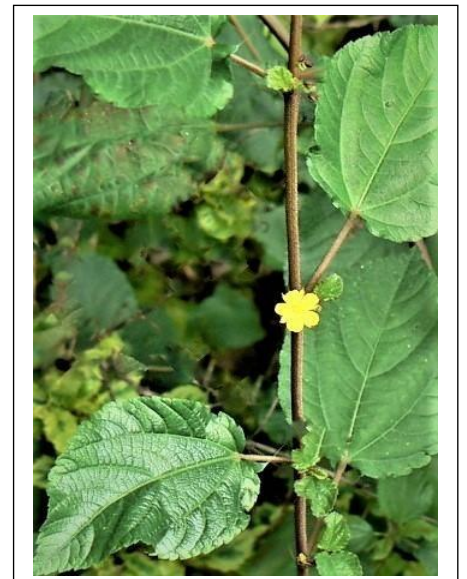
Description: Erect or spreading, (10-) 20-60 cm tall, much branched, annual herb. Thought by some to originate from the New World tropics in Latin America, by others from the Old-World tropics in Africa and South and South-East Asia. Distribution: Pakistan, India throughout as weed, Sri Lanka (Ceylon), Bangladesh, Burma, Malaya, Indochina, Australia, tropical Africa, West Indies, and Central America. Fl. & Fr. August-October.

Useful part: Seeds, aerial parts

Traditional uses: In traditional African medicine an extract of the roots or leaves used for the treatment of gonorrhoea, the whole plant extract used for treatment of urethral discharges; In Philippines leaves serve against headache, and seed powder or decoction, as a tonic, carminative, febrifuge and stomachic

Biological activity: Antimicrobial including antibacterial, antifungal and antioxidant, anti-inflammatory

Locality: Botany Department



Crotalaria albida Roth

Common name: Narrowleaf Rattlepod

Family: Fabaceae

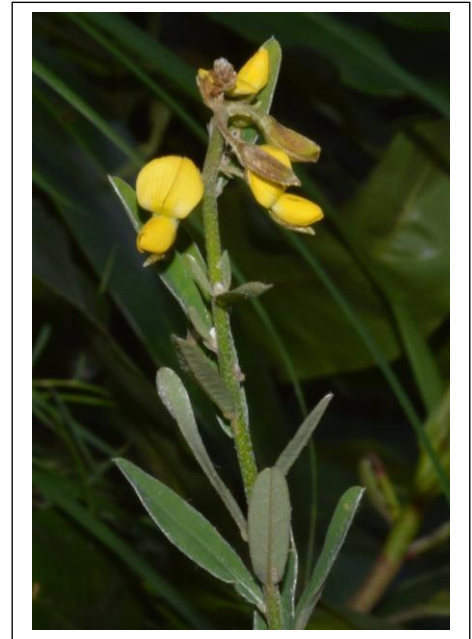
Description: *C. albida* is an annual to short-lived perennial, native to India. Fl. & Fr. December- January

Useful part: Whole plant, roots

Traditional uses: Juice of the root is used in the treatment of indigestion. A paste of the plant is applied topically as a treatment for warts, especially those on the sole of the feet

Biological activity: Antibacterial

Locality: Botany and Environmental Biology Departments



Croton hirtus L'Hér.

Common name: Hairy croton

Malayalam name: കോഴിവാലൻ

Family: Euphorbiaceae

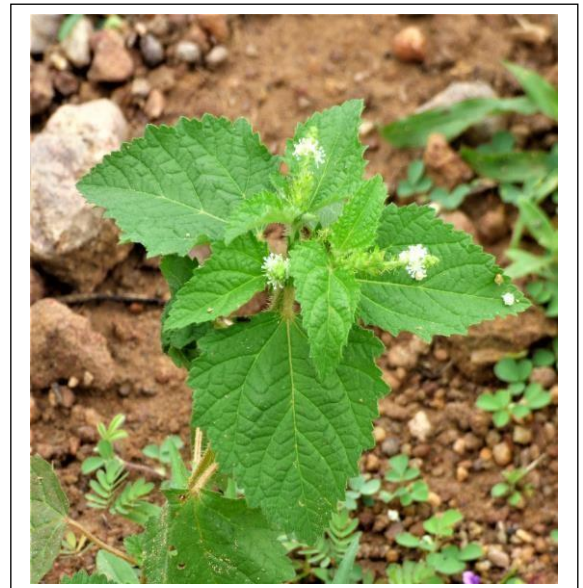
Description: Native to Tropical America Erect weedy herb, offensive smelling found in open fields, invasive; native to Goiás, Pará, Piauí, Minas Gerais, Rio Grande do Norte, Ceará and Alagoas; Fl & Fr. from June to September

Useful part: Roots, leaves

Traditional uses: Popular uses of croton spp. include treatment of cancer, constipation, diabetes, digestive problems, dysentery, external wounds, fever, hypercholesterolemia, hypertension, inflammation, intestinal worms, malaria, pain, ulcers and weight-loss.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, anti-inflammatory

Locality: Botany Department



Curculigo orchioides Gaertn

Common name: Black musli

Malayalam name: നിലപ്പന

Family: Hypoxidaceae

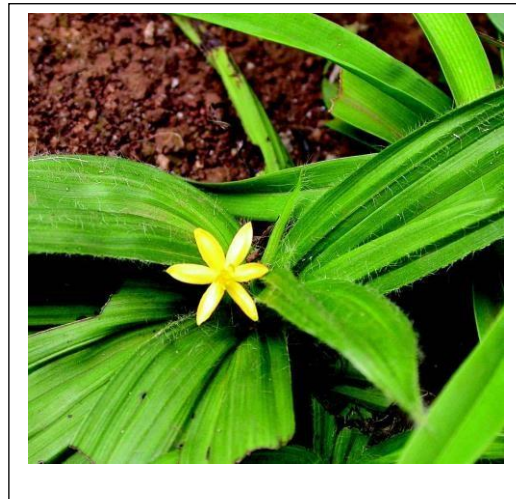
Description: Small perennial rhizomatous herb native to India. It is an endangered rasayana herb. Fl. & Fr. June-December

Useful part: Root stock

Traditional uses: The tuberous rootstock used as rejuvenating and aphrodisiac drug. It cures vata and pitta, improves complexion and is useful in deafness, cough, asthma, piles, skin diseases, jaundice, leucorrhoea and menorrhagia. It is used in ayurvedic formulations like Vidaryadighrta, Vidaryadi lehya, Marmagulika, Musalyadi churna etc. In the folklores it is used in lumbago, neurasthenia, chronic nephritis, impotency, hypertension, chronic arthritis etc.

Biological activity: Antimicrobial including antibacterial and antifungal, antitumor, anticarcinogenic

Locality: Botany and Environmental Biology Departments



Cyanthillium cinereum (L.) H. Rob.

Common name: Little ironweed

Malayalam name: പൂവാങ്കുറുന്തൽ,
പൂവാങ്കുരുനില

Family: Asteraceae

Description: The species is native to tropical Africa and to tropical Asia. It is a common herb throughout India. It is an annual or short-lived perennial. It is a cosmopolitan weed common in disturbed areas in the tropics and subtropics. Fl. & Fr. November-February

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: Whole plant used in Ayurveda as a diaphoretic and febrifuge, to promote perspiration in the treatment of fevers, as a poultice on cuts, wounds, and skin diseases. seeds, anthelmintic and antidote. Flowers used in treating conjunctivitis. Root used in treating dropsy and scorpion stings and externally to boils

Biological activity: antioxidant and free-radical-scavenging properties, inhibition of lipid peroxidation, cytotoxicity and protection from DNA and cell damage.

Locality: Whole campus



Cycas circinnalis L.

Common name: Sago palm

Malayalam name: ഇറന്ത

Family: Cycadaceae

Description: A stout palm-like plant with a trunk covered in thick and corky bark, which terminates in a crown of long, bright green, slightly glossy feathery leaves. It is a native to the old world, known in the wild only from southern India. Fl. Flowers once in many years.

Useful part: Bark, leaves, seeds

Traditional uses: Bark and the seeds are ground to a paste with oil and used as a poultice on sores, cuts, wounds, ulcers and swellings. Juice of tender leaves is useful in the treatment of flatulence and vomiting. A decoction of the leaves is drunk to soothe cough.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antioxidant

Other uses: The seeds are harvested and used for food as a regular part of the diet.

Locality: Botany and Computational Biology Departments



Cyclea peltata (Lam) Hooks & Thoms

Common name: Indian moonseed

Malayalam name: പാടത്താളി

Family: Menispermaceae

Description: It is a perennial climbing shrub. It grows in warm climate. Fl. & Fr. April-June /November-January.

Useful part: Tuberous roots

Traditional uses: Tuberous roots highly effective against Alzheimer, dysuria, snake bite, jaundice, stomach-ache, fever, nephrolithiasis. The roots are effective Blood purifier and brain enhancer

Biological activity: Anti-allergic, anti-bacterial, anti-hypertensive, antipyretic, anthelmintic, antioxidant, anti-ulcer, immunomodulatory

Locality: Botany Department, Way to Campus Ooty



Cymbopogon citratus (DC) Stapf

Common name: Lemon grass

Malayalam name: ഇഞ്ചിപ്പുല്ല്

Family: Poaceae

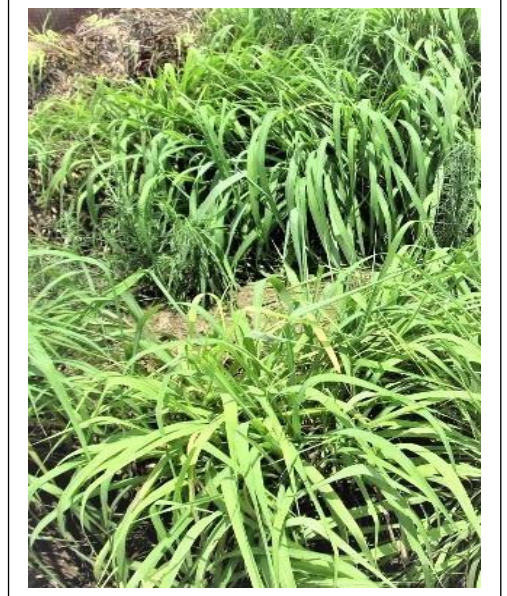
Description: A tall perennial grass with dense fascicles of leaves arising from a short, oblique annulate rhizome. Leaves with an aromatic (lemony) odour when crushed. Native to South East Asia. Fl. & Fr. July- September

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: Its fragrant leaves are traditionally used in cooking, particularly for a pork dish and roasted chicken. Dried leaves brewed into a tea. In traditional medicine of India, the leaves are used as stimulant, sudorific, antiperiodic, and anti-catarrhal, while the essential oil is used as carminative, depressant, analgesic and antipyretic.

Biological activity: cytoprotective, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, antibacterial, antifungal

Locality: Whole campus



Cynodon dactylon L.

Common name: Bermuda grass

Malayalam name: കറുക, ബലികറുക

Family: Poaceae

Description: A warm-season, prostrate, perennial grass that occurs on almost all soil types. It is a weed which is widely grown in tropical climate, native to India. In India it is considered very sacred and most favourite to Lord Ganesa. Flowering occurs in late summer. This grass spreads by scaly rhizomes and flat stolons that allow it to form a dense resilient turf.

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: problems Used in Ayurveda and Siddha medicine for treating piles, skin and eye problems, bleeding disorder and other gynaecological

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antiviral

Locality: Hymavathi pond area



Cyperus rotundus L.

Common name: Purple nutsedge or nutgrass

Malayalam name: മുത്തങ്ങ, കുഴിമുത്തങ്ങ

Family: Cyperaceae

Description: A species of sedge, native to Africa, southern and central Europe, and southern Asia. It is a colonial, perennial herb considered to have originated in India 2000 years ago and widely used in Ayurveda. Fl. & Fr. Throughout the year

Useful part: Roots, tubers

Traditional uses: Used to treat various clinical conditions at home such as diarrhoea, diabetes, pyresis, inflammation, malaria, stomach, and bowel disorders.

Biological activity: Analgesic, anti-allergic, anti-arthritic, anti-candida, anti-cariogenic, anti-convulsant, anti-diarrheal, anti-emetic, anti-helminthic, anti-histamine, anti-hyperglycemic, anti-hypertensive, anti-inflammatory, anti-malarial, anti-obesity, anti-platelet, anti-pyretic, anti-ulcer, anti-viral, cardioprotective, cytoprotective, gastroprotective, hepatoprotective, neuroprotective, wound-healing

Locality: Botany Department



Dactyloctenium aegyptium (L.) Willd.

Common name: Crowfoot grass

Malayalam name: കവര

പുല്ലി, കാക്കകാലൻ പുല്ലി

Family: Poaceae

Description: A tufted, slightly stoloniferous annual or short-lived perennial grass, native to Africa and widely distributed throughout the tropics, subtropics, and warm temperate regions of the Old world. Fl. & Fr. May- October

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: In Manipur, juice of fresh plants is prescribed in fevers. Decoction of the plant is given in smallpox.

Biological activity: antimicrobial, antioxidant, reproductive, cytotoxic, antidiabetic and gastrointestinal effects

Locality: Hymavathi pond area



Desmodium gangeticum (L.) DC

Common name: Sal leaved Desmodium

Malayalam name: ഓരില

Family: Fabaceae

Description: Herbs found as an orchard weed, native to tropical Africa, Asia, and northern Australia. Fl. & Fr. October-December

Useful part: Roots, leaves

Traditional uses: A decoction of the leaves used against stones in the gall bladder, kidneys, or bladder. Leaves applied as a poultice for headache. Roots considered astringent, bitter tonic, diuretic, expectorant and febrifuge. A decoction of the root used to treat kidney problems, oedema, swellings, chronic fever, coughs, biliousness, diarrhoea, and dysentery.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, anti-nociceptive

Locality: Botany Department



Desmodium triflorum (L.) DC.

Common name: Three-flower Beggarweed

Malayalam name: നിലംപരണ്ട

Family: Fabaceae

Description: A much branched, mat-forming, prostrate, annual to perennial herb; Probably originated in tropical Asia but is now Pantropical. Commonly found in pastures, plantations, roadsides, and lawns. Fl. & Fr. Throughout the year

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: The plant is antipyretic, antiseptic, expectorant. A decoction is commonly used to treat diarrhoea and dysentery. A poultice of the leaves, is applied externally on wounds, ulcers, and for skin problems

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, antibacterial

Locality: Whole campus



Dicranopteris linearis Burm.f. Underw

Common name: Coral fern

Family: Gleicheniaceae

Description: A common species of fern. It is a vigorously creeping plant, spreading to form large clumps in moist places. Fronds dichotomously divided. It is native to Hawaii. Reproduction through spores

Useful part: Roots, fronds

Traditional uses: Fronds are anti-asthmatic, febrifuge and poultice is used for treating wounds, cuts, boils, ulcers and sores. The young, circinate vernate fronds mixed with cow milk and then used for seven days continuously to remove sterility in women.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, anthelmintic

Locality: Botany and Computational Biology Departments



Dillenia suffruticosa (Griff.) Martelli

Common name: Shrubby dillenia

Family: Dilleniaceae

Description: A large, evergreen shrub with large glossy green leaves and yellow flowers, native to Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore. Fl. & Fr. Throughout the year

Useful part: Roots, leaves

Traditional uses: Leaves and roots being used against inflammations, itch, stomach ache, and recovery after delivery.

Biological activity: Antimicrobial: antibacterial, antioxidant, cytotoxic

Other uses: large leaves of the plant being used to wrap food, ornamental

Locality: Environmental biology Department



***Diodella teres* (Walter) Small**

Common name: Rough button weed
Family: Rubiaceae (Coffee family)
Description: This annual plant is native Mexico, Central America, South America, West Indies and Southern United States. Erect branched herbs; stem terete and woody at base. It is reported to be an invasive species. It is most conspicuous in natural pastures. Flower pink, opp. and sessile leaves, bristles standing up; Fl & Fr. October-January. This species has been found frequently burned areas.
Useful part: Leaves
Traditional uses: None known
Biological activity: Antibacterial
Other Uses: *D. teres* consists of approximately 5-10% of the diet for large mammals and various terrestrial birds
Locality: Botany Department



***Diospyros buxifolia* Blume Hiern**

Common name: Small-leaved ebony
Malayalam name: കാട്ടുതുവര, എലിച്ചെറിയൻ
Family: Ebenaceae
Description: A large evergreen tree, leaves very small. Fl. & Fr. March- May
Useful part: Leaves, stems
Traditional uses: None known
Biological activity: Antidiabetic
Other uses: Heartwood is used for posts and poles
Locality: Botany Department



Dodonaea viscosa (L.) Jacq.

Common name: Hopseed bush
Malayalam name: ആറ്റോട്ട, പ്രാളി
Family: Sapindaceae (Soapberry family)
Description: Common in dry scrub as shrubs. It makes a good hedge and is used for firewood, ploughs, and tool handles. It is native to Western America. Fl. & Fr. August- November and February- April.
Useful part: Roots, leaves, young stems
Traditional uses: Leaves and young stems are applied internally in the treatment of fevers, sore throats, digestive system disorders, including indigestion, ulcers, diarrhoea and constipation. The powdered leaves are given to expel roundworms. leaves are effective in the treatment of toothache if they are chewed.
Biological activity: antiviral, anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial and hypotensive
Locality: Whole campus



Dombeya spectabilis Bojer.

Common name: Honey tree
Family: Sterculiaceae
Description: Dombeya is a deciduous shrub with large maple-shaped leaves and dense heads of little pinkish white flowers. Fl & Fr: November- January
Useful part: Bark
Traditional uses: None known
Biological activity: None known
Other uses: Grown as an ornamental plant. Bark is gathered locally and used for making cordage
Locality: Botany Department



Dryopteris cochleata (D. Don) C. Chr

Common name: Common Indian fern

Malayalam name: പന്നൽചെടി

Family: Dryopteridaceae

Description: Terrestrial tufted woody fern with creeping rhizome and generally dimorphic fronds, rhizome woody Reproduces through spores

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: Young leaves used as vegetable, in eczema and as anthelmintic

Biological activity: Antimicrobial: antibacterial

Locality: Botany Department, Himavathi pond area



Eleutherine bulbosa (Mill.) Urb

Common name: Tears of virgin

Malayalam name: പൊന്നുളളി

Family: Iridaceae

Description: an herbaceous, perennial with reddish bulbous root stock, native to Caribbean to South Tropical America. Fl. & Fr. April- June

Useful part: Bulb

Traditional uses: The red bulb is crushed and mixed with water then drunk to kill intestinal parasites and worms. The sap of the bulb is mixed with salt and used as a remedy for epileptic fits, bloody diarrhoea, hemorrhagic and open wounds

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antioxidant, anticancer, antiproliferative

Locality: Botany Department



Eleusine indica (L.) Gaertn.

Common name: Indian goose grass, Indian crowfoot grass

Malayalam name: കാട്ടുതിന്ന

Family: Poaceae

Description: A short-lived tufted perennial that branches from the base and can have erect, decumbent, or prostrate habit, native to Africa and temperate and tropical Asia. Fl. & Fr. throughout the year

Useful part: Whole plant, roots

Traditional uses: The whole plant, but especially the root, is anthelmintic, astringent, depurative, diuretic, febrifuge, laxative and sudorific. It is used in the treatment of bladder disorders, liver complaints, relieve pain caused by straining the abdominal muscles. It is also used in the treatment of influenza, hypertension, oliguria, and retention of urine.

Biological activity: Anti-inflammatory, antioxidant

Locality: Botany Department



Emilia sonchifolia (L.) DC. ex Wight

Common name: Red tassel flower

Malayalam name: മൂയൽചെറിയൻ

Family: Asteraceae

Description: Native to China. It is an annual herb. *Emilia sonchifolia* is commonly reported as a weed crop. It is one among the constituents of Dasapushpam, an Ayurvedic formulation. Fl. & Fr. July- December

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: In Vietnam, it has been used in traditional medicine for the treatment of fever, sore throat, diarrhoea, eczema and as an antidote for snake bites. A tea made from the leaves is used in the treatment of dysentery. The plant is astringent, depurative, diuretic, expectorant, febrifuge and sudorific. The juice of the root is used in the treatment of diarrhoea.

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, antibacterial, antidiabetic, antioxidant

Locality: Botany Department



Euphorbia hirta L.

Common name: Asthma-plant

Malayalam name: നിലപ്പാല

Family: Euphorbiaceae

Description: A pantropical weed, possibly native to India. It is a hairy annual herb that grows in open grasslands, roadsides and pathways. Fl. & Fr.

Throughout the year

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: to treat respiratory system disorders including bronchitis, asthma, hay fever, emphysema, coughs, colds and laryngeal spasm, though in modern herbalism it is more used in the treatment of gastrointestinal disorders, including intestinal parasites, diarrhoea, peptic ulcers, heartburn, vomiting, amoebic dysentery, kidney stones, menstrual problems, sterility and venereal diseases

Biological activity: Antidiarrhoeal, antiplasmodial, hepatoprotective, oestrogenic

Locality: Botany Department



Evolvulus alsinoides Linn.

Common name: Little glory

Malayalam name: വിഷ്ണുകാന്തി

Family: Convolvulaceae

Description: It is a very variable, perennial plant with slender, branched stems that can become somewhat woody. It is one of the plants included in Dasapushpam, the ten sacred flowers of Kerala. It is native to South America. Fr & Fr. throughout the year

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: Used in form of decoction in nervous debility and loss of memory, as blood purifier and in bleeding piles, fresh flowers with sugar eaten as brain tonic, leaf paste made into cigarettes and smoked in chronic bronchitis and asthma. It is traditionally used in Ayurveda for nootropic and psychotropic effects

Biological activity: Antibacterial

Locality: Botany Department



Eugenia uniflora L.

Common name: Surinam cherry

Malayalam name: മുളകുനെല്ലി

Family: Myrtaceae

Description: A large shrub with glossy green leaves; often used in gardens as a hedge or screen, native to tropical America. Fl. & Fr. Several times a year. The fruit has high vitamin C content.

Useful part: Leaves, fruits

Traditional uses: Leaves are astringent, febrifuge, stomachic and tonic. An infusion is used to remedy head colds, influenza, chest colds, coughs and fevers. The fruits are used to reduce blood pressure.

Biological activity: Antimicrobial

Locality: Botany Department



Flacourtia sepiaria Roxb.

Common name: Governor's plum

Malayalam name: കരിമുളളി

Family: Salicaceae

Description: It is an indigenous medicinal plant widely distributed in India and Bangladesh. Fl. & Fr. November-March

Useful part: Leaves, roots, fruits

Traditional uses: Used for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis and gout. Fruits are edible. the bark triturated in sesamum oil is used for rheumatism. An infusion of the leaves and roots is an antidote to snake-bites.

Biological activity: Anti-Inflammatory, Antimicrobial, Antioxidant, Hepatoprotective, Antimalarial, Anti-Diabetic, Anti asthmatic and Antibacterial Activity

Locality: Botany Department



Flemingia grahamiana Wight & Arn.

Common name: Sika-ha

Family: Fabaceae

Description: A much branched perennial herb, erect or occasionally sub scandent, native to Tropical & S. Africa to Arabian Pen, S. India, and S. China. Fl. & Fr. November- December

Useful part: Whole plant, roots

Traditional uses: A root decoction is drunk as a treatment of diarrhoea and dysentery. The plant is used internally as a purgative and as a treatment for colds. It is applied topically as a treatment against skin diseases.

Biological activity: Antimicrobial

Other uses: The fruit is one of the principal sources of a very popular Arab dye called 'waras'

Locality: Botany Department



Gauzuma ulmifolia Lam. (= *G. tomentosa* Kunth.)

Common name: Bay cedar

Malayalam name: രുദ്രകക്ഷി

Family: Sterculiaceae

Description: *G. ulmifolia* is a tree with a spreading, rounded crown, native to tropical America, Ecuador and Colombia. Fl. & Fr. August- September.

Useful part: Mostly bark

Traditional uses: Used as astringent, in cold, in cough, in diarrhoea, as diuretic, in dysentery, in venereal diseases, etc.

Biological activity: anti-diabetic, antihypertensive, anti-microbial, anti-oxidant, anti-ulcer, neurological, anti-secretory, cytotoxic, uterine stimulating activity and as a hair growth promoter

Other uses: Used as a fuel wood, in making of charcoal, ropes etc.

Locality: Botany Department



***Glyricidia sepium* (Jacq.) Walp.**

Common name: Gliricidia, Mother of cocoa

Malayalam name: ശീമകൊന്ന

Family: Fabaceae

Description: A medium size leguminous tree, native of Mexico, Central America and northern South America. Fl. & Fr. take place during the dry season, when the tree has shed its leaves

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: The toxic seeds and bark of *G. sepium* as rodenticides.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antifungal, insecticidal

Locality: Hymavathi pond area



***Gmelina philippensis* Cham.**

Common name: Parrot's Beak

Family: Lamiaceae

Description: An evergreen, usually spiny, straggling or climbing shrub or small tree widely cultivated as an ornamental throughout the tropics. It is a native of Philippine islands, India and S.E. Asia. The flower resembles a Parrot's Beak. Fl & Fr. August- December

Useful part: Roots, leaves, fruits

Traditional uses: The juice of the fruit is applied to eczema of the feet. It is also used as a leech repellent. The fruit, pounded with lime, is applied as a poultice to the throat as a remedy for coughs. The extracts of the roots, and leaves are used internally as a stimulant, resolvent, and in treating diseases of the joints and nerves. Juice of the roots is used as a purgative.

Biological activity: Antimicrobial

Locality: Botany Department



Gnetum edule (Willd.) Blume

Common name: Joint fir
Malayalam name: കറുത്ത ഓടൽ
Family: Gnetaceae
Description: A large, evergreen, climbing plant with woody, twining stems (Woody lianas) native to India. Fl. & Seeding. March-April.
Useful part: Leaves
Traditional uses: An oil obtained from the seed is used medicinally. Kurichya tribals use the leaf paste to cure arthritis. They apply it on the affected part.
Biological activity: Antimicrobial: antibacterial, antifungal
Locality: Sacred groves, North Campus



Gymnopetalum scabrum (Loureiro) W. J de Wilde & Duyfjes

Common name: Wild cucumber
Malayalam name: കാട്ടുവെള്ളരി
Family: Cucurbitaceae
Description: Its native range is India to S.China and Malesia. Largely creeping and climbing annual herb common in the wastelands. Fl. & Fr. June-December. The watery, slimy, blackish pulp enveloping the seeds does not taste bitter.
Useful part: Whole plant
Biological activity: Spp. of *Gymnopetalum* show antibacterial activity
Locality: Botany Department, Campus Ooty



Gymnema sylvestre (Retz.) R. Br. Ex. Sm

Common name: Gurmar

Malayalam name: ചക്കരക്കൊല്ലി

Family: Apocynaceae

Description: A woody climbing shrub that's native to the tropical forests of India, Africa and Australia. It is a slow growing herb. Fl. & Fr. July- January

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: The plant is described as a destroyer of 'Madhumeha' and urinary disorder in Ayurvedas. The plant is used for various ailments, including diabetes, malaria and snakebites. It is astringent, bitter and acid.

Biological activity: Anti-inflammatory, sedative, digestive, liver tonic, diuretic, stomachic, stimulant, antipyretic, alexipharmic, purgative, expectorant, and uterinetonic. It is useful in hepatosplenomegaly, inflammations, jaundice, constipation, helminthiasis, dyspepsia haemorrhoids, strangury renal and vesical calculi cardiopathy, bronchitis, cough, asthma intermittent fever, amenorrhoea, vitiated conditions of vata conjunctivitis and leucoderma.

Locality: Botany Department



Gynochthodes umbellata (L.) Razafim. & B. Bermer

Common name: Common Indian mulberry

Malayalam name: കുടലുചുരുക്കി

Family: Rubiaceae

Description: An evergreen climbing shrub; native range E. Asia- China, Japan, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines to New Guinea, Australia and the western Pacific. Fl. & Fr. February- June. Fruit fused into a syncarpium.

Useful part: Fruits, roots, leaves

Traditional uses: roots strongly purgative, boiled roots used as a treatment for dropsy. A decoction of the leaves and roots is used as a vermifuge for children

Biological activity: Antibacterial

Other uses: A dye can be obtained from the bark of the roots and stem; fruits edible

Locality: Whole campus



Hemidesmus indicus (L.) R. Br.

Common name: Indian sarsaparilla

Malayalam name: നറുമിണ്ടി

Family: Apocynaceae

Description: A slender, shrubby plant producing creeping or twining shoots from a woody rootstock. The plant is widely exploited from the wild for its root, which is used medicinally. Fl & Fr. November-February

Useful part: roots, leaves, latex

Traditional uses: Root is a demulcent, alterative, astringent, diaphoretic, diuretic, tonic, anti-pyretic, and blood purifier. It is used in leprosy and skin diseases. A paste of the roots is applied externally to swellings and rheumatic joints.

Biological activity: insecticidal, antifeedant, growth regulating on insects, antimicrobial, antibacterial, antifungal

Locality: Botany Department



Hibiscus hispidissimus Griff.

Common name: Wild Hibiscus

Malayalam name: ഞാറൻ പുളി

Family: Malvaceae

Description: Rambling or climbing shrubs; stems, petioles and pedicels armed with recurved prickles, often intermingled with dense stellate indumentum, native to warm temperate and tropical regions. Fl. & Fr. September-January/November- February.

Useful part: Roots, Leaves

Traditional uses: Leaves anthelmintic. Juice of leaves mixed with honey used in the treatment of eye diseases, roots used in the treatment of kidney disorders. Used in tribal medicine of Kerala, to treat liver diseases

Biological activity: Hepatoprotective, Antiarthritic

Locality: Campus Ooty



Hibiscus rosa-sinensis L.

Common name: China rose

Malayalam name: ചെമ്പരത്തി

Family: Malvaceae

Description: Glabrous shrubs, native of Pacific Islands, cultivated in Tropical and Subtropical countries, Flowering throughout the year

Useful part: Leaves, flowers

Traditional uses: The leaves and flowers are promoters of hair growth and antigreying and aid in healing of ulcers. Flowers have been found to be effective in the treatment of arterial hypertension and have significant antifertility effect.

Biological activity: Antibacterial

Other uses: Flowers are cooked

Locality: Botany Department,
Campus Ooty



Holigarna arnottiana Wall ex. Hook. f

Common name: Malabar marking nut

Malayalam name: ചേർ

Family: Anacardiaceae

Description: Large trees, trunk & Bark finely fissured and pustular. Latex is white turning to black. It is native to Asia. Fl. & Fr. January- June

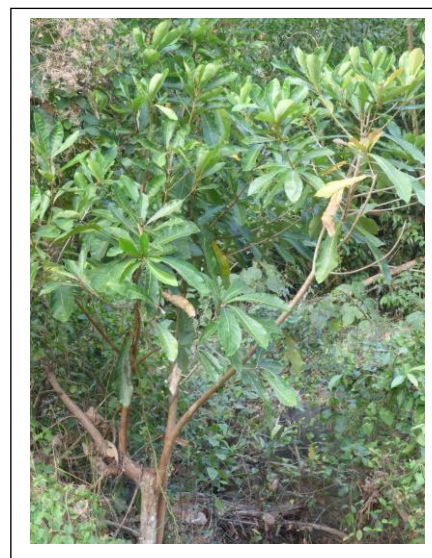
Useful part: All parts used

Uses: Wood light grey, soft, light, used for packing cases, cigar cases, boats, dugouts, bullock carts, matchboxes and splints and pencils.

Traditional uses: Used for the treatment of arthritis, cancer, obesity, piles, cancer and tumours

Biological activity: Anticancer, anti-inflammatory, hypotensive

Locality: Hymavathi pond area



Hopea ponga Dennst. Mabb.

Common name: Thingam

Malayalam name: കമ്പകം

Family: Dipterocarpaceae

Description: Trees, Bark is thin smooth, flaky. Branchlets are usually drooping. It is endemic to India. Fl. & Fr. March- May, Fruits winged.

Useful part: Bark and other parts

Traditional uses: The different parts of the plant have been used for the treatment of piles and snake bite in the folk medicine. The bark of the tree is a good tanning material and astringent

Biological activity: Anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, anthelmintic, antioxidant

Locality: Security Office compound



Hybanthus enneaspermus (L.) F. Muell.

Common name: Spade Flower, Pink lady's slipper

Malayalam name: ഓരിലതാമര, കൽതാമര

Family: Violaceae

Description: A perennial herb, flower pink with a flat petal. It is common in arable, pasture and wastelands. It is native to Himalayan region and warmer parts of India. Fl & Fr. throughout the year

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: In Ayurveda, the plant is used to cure conditions of Kapha and Pitta, urinary calculi, painful dysentery, vomiting, burning sensation, urethral discharge, blood trouble, asthma, epilepsy and cough

Biological activity: antidiabetic, anti-plasmodial, antimicrobial anticonvulsant nephroprotective, aphrodisiac, hepatoprotective, anti-inflammatory, aldose reductase inhibitory and free radical scavenging activities.

Locality: Botany Department



Hyptis capitata Jacq.

Common name: False iron wort

Family: Lamiaceae

Description: Erect annual shrubs, Native to Florida, Mexico, Central America, West Indies and South America. The plant has spread widely as a weed and is reported to be invasive in many areas. It seeds prolifically each year, which ensures its survival. Fl. & Fr. September - January

Useful part: Roots, leaves

Traditional uses: leaves are excitant and tonic. An infusion of the leaves is used as a sedative and calmative, and to reduce heart palpitations. A decoction of the roots is used in the treatment of amenorrhea

Biological activity: Antimicrobial

Locality: Botany Department



Hyptis suaveolens (L.) Poit

Common name: Bush mint

Malayalam name: നാറ്റപ്പുളച്ചടി

Family: Lamiaceae

Description: Native to American tropics. It is a coarse erect annual or often a perennial with stems that become more or less woody and persist. Usually much branched. Fl. & Fr. September- April

Useful part: whole plant including roots

Traditional uses: A decoction of the roots is valued as an appetizer and emmenagogue. The plant is used as carminative, febrifuge, and stomachic. The leaf paste is applied on sores

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, antibacterial, antifungal, antioxidant, neuroprotective

Locality: Whole campus



Ipomoea cairica L. Sweet

Common name: Morning glory, Railway creeper

Malayalam name: കോളാമ്ബിപ്പു

Family: Convolvulaceae

Description: A vining, herbaceous, perennial plant with palmate leaves and large, showy white to lavender flowers. The exact native range of this species is obscure, but it is thought to have originated in tropical Africa and Asia. Fl. & Fr. September- May

Useful part: Whole plant, seeds

Traditional uses: The entire plant is used for treating external infections. Seeds are used as a strong purgative.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, Antifungal, Antioxidant

Locality: Botany Department



Ipomoea mauritiana Jacq.

Common name: Giant potato

Malayalam name: പാൽമുതുകൾ

Family: Convolvulaceae

Description: This species is a climber probably native to Tropical America, now globally distributed in the Pantropics. Within India, it has been recorded in the moist tropical region. Fl. & Fr. August-September

Useful part: Roots, leaves

Traditional uses: Root aphrodisiac, cholagogue, demulcent, galactagogue and tonic, used in the treatment of fevers and bronchitis, diseases of the spleen and liver, menorrhagia, debility and fat accumulation. Leaves and roots used externally to treat tuberculosis and for the treatment of external and breast infections.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antioxidant

Locality: Botany Department



Ischaemum ftscheri Ravi & Kiran Raj (Species name unresolved in The Plant List)

Common name: Murainagrass
Family: Poaceae
Description: Annual herbs, native to tropics and sub tropics. Fl. & Fr. October- February
Useful part: None
Traditional uses: None known
Biological activity: None known
Locality: Whole campus



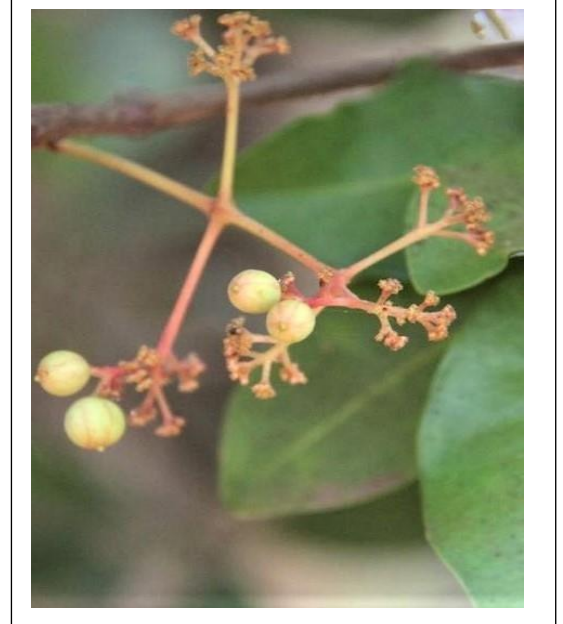
Ixora coccinea L.

Common name: Flame of the woods
Malayalam name: കാട്ടുചെത്തി
Family: Rubiaceae
Description: It is a common flowering shrub native to Southern India, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka. It is a low-growing tropical shrub notable for its bright coloured flowers composed of many small blooms. Fl. & Fr. throughout the year
Useful part: Flowers, leaves, roots, stem
Traditional uses: The fruits, when fully ripe, are used as a dietary source. Used as an astringent and to treat dysentery and tuberculosis. An infusion of the leaves or flowers is administered to treat fever, headache and colic. A decoction of the roots is used as a sedative
Biological activity: Antioxidative, antibacterial, gastroprotective, hepatoprotective, anti-diarrhoeal, antinociceptive, antimutagenic, antineoplastic and chemo preventive effects
Locality: Botany Department, Way to Campus Ooty



Ixora brachiata Roxb.

Common name: Gorbale, torchwood
ixora
Malayalam name: മരച്ചെത്തി
Family: Rubiaceae
Description: Gorbale is a small tropical tree found in evergreen forests of southern parts of India, like Karnataka, Maharashtra, Kerala. Bark smooth, greyish-brown. It is endemic to Western Ghats. Fl. & Fr. January-May
Useful part: Leaves
Traditional uses: Leaves used by tribal community in Jawahar. Fruits edible
Biological activity: antimicrobial, antifungal, Antileishmanial, antioxidant
Locality: Botany Department



Jasminum angustifolium Vahl.

Common name: Wild jasmine
Malayalam name: കട്ടുമുല്ല
Family: Oleaceae
Description: Evergreen, slender woody twiner, vine or straggling shrub with a smooth stem and minutely pubescent branchlets, native to India, Sri Lanka and the Andaman Islands. Fl. & Fr. November-March
Useful part: Leaves, flowers
Traditional uses: The leaves are used in the treatment of mouth ulcers. The flowers are used in the treatment of tuberculosis.
Biological activity: Antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, wound healing
Other uses: An essential oil obtained from the flowers is used in perfumery
Locality: Botany Department



Knoxia corymbosa Willd. (= *Knoxia sumatrensis* (Retz.) DC)

Common name: Sumatra knoxia

Family: Rubiaceae

Description: An erect perennial pubescent herb. Native range tropical & subtropical Asia to Queensland, found in Indomalaya region, peninsular India and Sri Lanka. Fl & Fr. August-September

Useful part: Whole plant, leaves

Traditional uses: Girijans of the forest area are using for fevers and skin diseases

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antifungal

Locality: Botany Department



Lantana camara L.

Common name: Lantana, wild sage

Malayalam name: അരിപ്പൂവ്

Family: Verbenaceae

Description: A thorny shrub upright, half climbing or sometimes more or less hanging. Flower yellow, pink or orange-red coloured, fruits blue-black drupes, native to the American tropics. Fl. & Fr. throughout the year.

Useful part: Roots

Traditional uses: Root sweet and bitter tasting, refrigerant, antifebrile. In Philippines, a decoction used to treat influenza, cough, mumps, incessant high fever, malaria, cervical lymph node tuberculosis, asthma, toothache, headache, inflammation, gonorrhoea and leucorrhoea

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, fungicidal, insecticidal and nematocidal

Locality: Botany and Environmental Biology campus, Way to Campus Ooty



Lobelia alsinoides Lam.

Common name: Chickweed Lobelia

Malayalam name: കടക്കപ്പൂ

Family: Campanulaceae

Description: Decumbent herbs, rooting from lower nodes, native to Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China and India.

Fl. & Fr. August- October

Useful part: Root, stem, leaves

Traditional uses: Used for the treatment of liver disorders like jaundice.

Biological activity: Hepatoprotective

Locality: Environmental Biology Department



Macaranga peltata Roxb. Mueller

Common name: Macaranga

Malayalam name: ഉപ്പില, വട്ട

Family: Euphorbiaceae

Description: A small or medium-sized resinous tree, native to India, Sri Lanka and Thailand, Fl. & Fr. January- February

Useful part: Bark, leaves, gum, fruits

Traditional uses: The gum powder from Macaranga peltata has been used in Indian medicine for the treatment of venereal diseases! A decoction of leaves and bark is used as a wash for ulcers.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antifungal, antioxidant

Other uses: Used for making wooden pencils and in the plywood industry. The resinous exudate used for sizing paper and for taking impressions of leaves, coins, medallions etc; it is used also as a substitute for gum arabic. The fruit is eaten during the periods of scarcity

Locality: Environmental Biology Department, Language block, Hymavathi pond area



Melinis repens Willd. Zizka

Common name: Natal red top
Malayalam name: Thoovalpullu
Family: Poaceae
Description: A short-lived perennial grass native to South Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, India, the Seychelles island and Canary Island. Fl. & Fr. January- March.
Useful part: Whole plant, seeds
Traditional uses: None known
Biological activity: None known
Other uses: Birds eat the seeds and use the plant for nesting material. Although it is considered as poor forage, the main use is as pasture. Other uses reported include ornamental, and fito-remediation.
Locality: Botany and Environmental Biology Departments



Memecylon edule Roxb.

Common name: Ironwood
Malayalam name: കാഞ്ഞൊവ്വ്, കാശാവ്, കായാമ്പു
Family: Melastomataceae
Description: A small evergreen tree native to India. Fl. & Fr. once or twice a year
Useful part: Bark, flowers, fruits
Traditional uses: The bark is used to treat bruises. An infusion of the flowers is used to treat inflammation of the conjunctiva
Biological activity: Antimicrobial: antibacterial, antioxidant
Other uses: Fruit eaten raw, aluminium rich leaves have been used traditionally as a mordant for fixing the colour of dyes. Wood is used traditionally for purposes such as poles, house posts, lumber and furniture
Locality: Environmental Biology Department



Memecylon randerianum Burm.f

Common name: Malabar memecylon

Malayalam name: കാശാവ്, കായമ്പു

Family: Melastomataceae

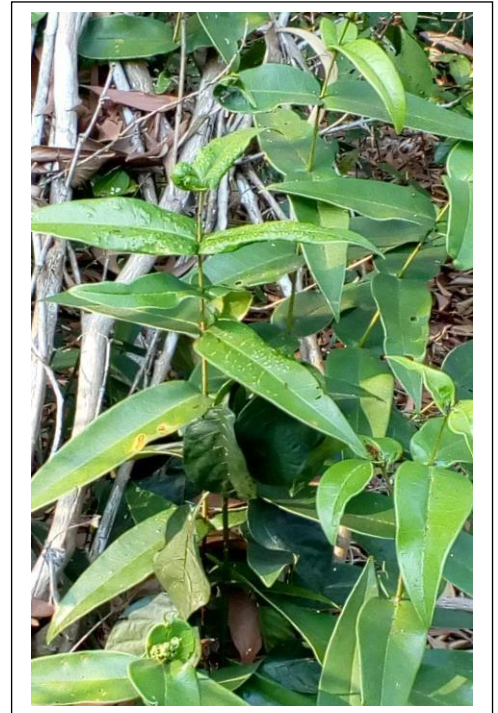
Description: Bushy shrubs endemic to Southern Western Ghats. Fl. & Fr. February-May

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: used in the treatment of diabetes, herpes, gonorrhoea, leucorrhoea and skin diseases etc.

Biological activity: antimicrobial, antioxidant, antidiabetic, anticancer, cytotoxic

Locality: CEIB compound



Merremia tridentata (L.) Hallier f.

Common name: African morning vine

Malayalam name: പ്രസാരണി, തലനീളി

Family: Convolvulaceae

Description: A slender, perennial, prostrate herb with angular stems. Widely distributed in tropical Africa, Asia and Australia. Fl. & Fr. November- January

Useful part: Whole plant, roots, seeds

Traditional uses: Whole plant used in Ayurveda, Siddha and Folk for acid reflux, arthritis and constipation. The roots and seeds used with the medicines given in the treatment of rheumatism. Leaves applied on wounds and the whole plant boiled in oil and the oil applied on blotches

Biological activity: Anthelmintic, anti-inflammatory, antibacterial, antidote, antioxidant, blood purifier, diuretic, laxative

Locality: Whole campus



Mikania scandens (L.) Willd.

Common name: Climbing hemp vine

Malayalam name: വയറവളു്ളി

Family: Asteraceae

Description: A herbaceous climbing vine with the potential to grow over and outcompete native plant species, native to the eastern and central United States. Fl. & Fr. Though it blooms all through the year, it flowers abundantly during February- April

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: Used for treatment of gastric ulcers, wounds, and insect bites

Biological activity: antimicrobial, antipyretic, anti-inflammatory agent, anti-cold used as decoction for coughs

Locality: Way to campus Ooty, Environmental Biology Department



Mimosa diplotricha Suavalle

Common name: Giant sensitive plant

Malayalam name: ആനതൊട്ടുവാടി

Family: Fabaceae

Description: *M. diplotricha* is a species of leguminous woody shrub native to the Neotropics. It is an invasive species and now has a pantropical distribution. Fl. & Fr. October-December

Uses: Used as green manure

Traditional uses: None known

Biological activity: None known

Locality: Botany Department



Mimosa pudica L.

Common name: Touch me not, The sensitive plant

Malayalam name: തൊട്ടുവടി

Family: Fabaceae

Description: A weed of wetter coastal areas, particularly in tropical and sub-tropical regions. It is mostly found in plantation crops, disturbed sites, pastures, waste areas, parks. Fl. & Fr. July- January

Useful part: Whole plant, roots, leaves, seed

Traditional uses: In Ayurveda the root is used in the treatment of leprosy, amoebic dysentery, uterine complaints, inflammations, asthma, leukoderma, and blood diseases. It is very useful in diarrhoea, dysentery, bleeding piles and urinary infections. The leaves are bitter, mildly sudorific, tonic. The seed is emetic.

Biological activity: antioxidant, antibacterial, antifungal, anti-inflammatory, hepatoprotective, anticonvulsant, antidepressant, antidiarrheal, hypolipidemic activities, diuretic, antiparasitic, antimalarial, and hypoglycaemic

Locality: Whole campus



Morinda pubescens J. E Smith

Common name: Indian mulberry, noni

Malayalam name: മഞ്ഞനാത്തി, മഞ്ഞപ്പാവട്ട

Family: Rubiaceae

Description: Deciduous trees, bark pale brown. native to southern Asia, upper and lower Burma, Bengal, Bihar, central provinces and in the Deccan westwards to the eastern slopes of the Ghats in India. Fl. & Fr. March-June

Useful part: Root, Fruits, flowers, leaves, heartwood

Uses: The morindone dye sold under the trade name Suranji used for dyeing of cotton, silk and wool in shades of red, chocolate or purple is obtained from root bark

Traditional uses: The charred leaves made into a decoction with mustard are a favorite domestic remedy for infantile diarrhoea. leaves are administered internally as a tonic and febrifuge

Biological activity: Leaves antibacterial, antifungal, anticonvulsant, fruits astringent, wound healing, treatment to gout and rheumatism

Locality: Whole campus



Mussaenda frondosa L.

Common name: Mussenda

Malayalam name: വെള്ളില

Family: Rubiaceae

Description: An evergreen shrub, with a large prominent white petaloid sepal in their flowers. It is native to India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia and Indonesia. Fl. & Fr. September - March

Useful part: Whole plant, roots, bark, leaves, flowers

Traditional uses: Plant juice used to treat eye infections. A decoction of the leaves anthelmintic. Root used as a treatment for leprosy. The juice of the roots, combined with about 10% by volume of cow's urine, used in the treatment of jaundice. Juice of the bark used in the treatment of body ache, diarrhoea and dysentery. Flower diuretic.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antioxidant

Locality: Botany Department



Neolamarckia cadamba (Roxb.) Miq.

Common name: Kadam, bur flower tree

Malayalam name: കടമ്പ്

Family: Rubiaceae

Description: an evergreen Tree growing at a fast rate, native to South and Southeast Asia. Fl. & Fr. April- August

Useful part: Bark, wood

Traditional uses: The dried bark is used in the treatment of fever and as a tonic.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antioxidant

Other uses: The root bark yields yellow dye while the flowers yield essential oil. The wood is used for light construction, pulp and paper, boxes, crates, and furniture components.

Locality: Botany Department



Neolitsea cassia (L.) Kosterm. (= *Neolitsea zeylanica* (Nees & T. Nees) Merr.)

Common name: Shore Laurel

Malayalam name: കീഴമ്പഴം,

വെങ്കണം

Family: Lauraceae

Description: Deciduous trees, bark 8-10 mm thick, grey, rough, brittle; blaze creamy yellow turning to yellowish-brown, inner surface slimy to touch. It is endemic to Sri Lanka. Fl. & Fr. March- April

Useful part: Bark, leaves

Traditional uses: Leaves and bark, pounded with coconut oil heated and applied on swollen joints and fractures

Biological activity: Antibacterial

Locality: Botany Department



Oldenlandia umbellata L.

Common name: Indian madder, chay root

Malayalam name: ചായവേര

Family: Rubiaceae

Description: A low-growing small annual plant native to India. It is a dye yielding medicinal plant. It produces two types of flowers. Fl. & Fr. November-March

Useful part: Roots, leaves

Traditional uses: A decoction of the root used as febrifuge. The root is used in the treatment of snake-bites. A decoction of the leaves and bark is used as expectorant and is prescribed in cases of bronchial catarrh, bronchitis, tuberculosis and asthma

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antimycobacterial, anthelmintic

Locality: Botany Department



Olea dioica Roxb.

Common name: Wild olive
Malayalam name: കരിവെട്ടി, എടന
Family: Oleaceae (Jasmine family)
Description: Trees. Native to Indian subcontinent, distributed in the Western Ghats. Bark brownish in younger plants the leaves are always serrated. Fruit drupe, blue when ripe. Fl. & Fr. November-April
Useful part: Leaves, bark, root, fruits
Traditional uses: to cure skin diseases, rheumatism, fever, and cancer
Biological activity: Antioxidant, cytotoxic, antimicrobial
Locality: Botany and Environmental Biology Departments, Way to campus Ooty, Hymavathi pond area



Operculina turpethum (L.) S. Manso

Common name: Indian Jalap
Malayalam name: ത്രികോല്പക്കൊന്ന
Family: Convolvulaceae
Description: A large perennial twiner with triangular-shaped stem, endemic to India. Fl. & Fr. Twice a year from September to November and then from March to May.
Useful part: Whole plant, seeds, root bark, root, stem, leaves
Traditional uses: The plant is a source of a drug known as turpeth or Indian jalap. Root and root bark are cathartic and laxative. The tuberous roots are also efficacious in dropsy, melancholia, gout, leprosy, rheumatism, and paralysis.
Biological activity: Antibacterial
Locality: Botany Department



Oplismenus compositus (L.) Beau

Common name: The running mountain grass

Family: Poaceae

Description: Trailing annuals, creeping and rooting at the lower nodes, native to Colombia. Spikelets on several short branches along the rachis Fl. & Fr. Throughout the year

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: Used as antiseptic, astringent, demulcent, for dropsy and dysentery

Biological activity: Antifungal

Locality: Whole campus



Osbeckia aspera L. (Blume)

Common name: Rough osbeckia

Malayalam name: കാട്ടുകുരുളി

Family: Melastomataceae

Description: Erect rough small-leaved shrubs, native to India and Sri Lanka. Fl. & Fr. August- April

Useful part: Leaves, root, bark

Traditional uses: Used to treat liver diseases

Biological activity: Antioxidant

Locality: Campus Ooty



Pandanus odorifer (Forssk.) Kuntze.

Common name: Screw pine

Malayalam name: കൈത

Family: Pandanaceae

Description: Small, slender, branching tree with a flexuous trunk supported by stilt roots. With rosettes of long-pointed, stiffly leathery, spiny leaves, native to Polynesia, Australia, South Asia, and the Philippines. Fl. & Fr. July- November

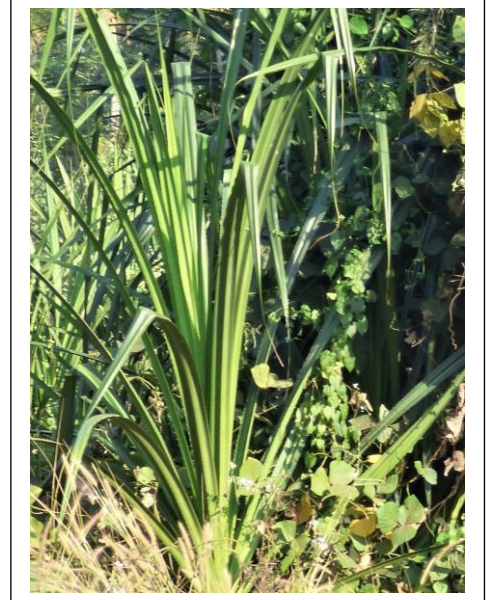
Useful part: Leaves, roots

Traditional uses: Leaf bud is diuretic. It is taken internally as a poultice for boils, roots diuretic, depurative and tonic

Biological activity: Antimicrobial: antibacterial, antioxidant

Other uses: An essential oil obtained from the male flower bracts used in perfumery. A popular perfume, known as 'kewda attar' is obtained from the flowers. Dried leaves used for making mats

Locality: Hymavathi pond area



Passiflora edulis var. *flavicarpa*

Common name: Passion flower

Malayalam name: പാഷൻ

ഫൂട്ട്, വള്ളി ഓറഞ്ച്

Family: Passifloraceae

Description: Climbing shrubs, native to southern America: Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay. It is cultivated commercially in tropical and subtropical areas for its sweet, seedy fruit. Fl. & Fr. July- November

Useful part: Leaves, flowers, fruits

Traditional uses: The passion fruit leaves together with a small portion of the juice used to lower blood pressure, sedative and antispasmodic action. flowers used in treatment for the nervous system in easily excited children, bronchial asthma, insomnia, nervous gastrointestinal disorders and menopausal problems.

Biological activity: Fruits show anticancer, antimicrobial, antioxidant, anti-clotting

Locality: Botany Department, Tulsivanam



Passiflora foetida L.

Common name: Stinking passion flower

Malayalam name: അമ്മൂമ്മപ്പഴം,
പുടപ്പഴം

Family: Passifloraceae

Description: A branched annual or perennial herbaceous vine native to the southwestern United States, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America, Africa, and much of South America. It is a weed of roadsides, disturbed sites and waste areas. Fl. & Fr. November-May

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: The fresh, whole plant is boiled and the liquid used as a children's anthelmintic, for intestinal nematodes and flatworms. A decoction of the dried plant is drunk to treat colds, coughs and tuberculosis. Fluid, pressed from the leaves and stem, is used to improve fertility in women

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, antibacterial, antioxidant

Locality: Whole campus



Pennisetum pedicellatum Trin

Common name: Desho grass

Malayalam name: പൂച്ചവ്വലൻ പുല്ലൂ

Family: Poaceae

Description: Annuals, Panicles interrupted, fluffy-white or purplish, spikelets, at least one of them pedicelled, native of Ethiopia. It is an aggressive weed. Fl. & Fr. September- December

Useful part: Stem, leaves

Traditional uses: used for treatment of wounds, pain related condition, eye and parasitic infections among the traditional healers in Kebbi State, Nigeria.

Biological activity: Wound healing

Other uses: *P. pedicellatum* is widely used as green fodder for cattle and as roof thatch

Locality: Botany and Computational biology Departments



Pennisetum polystachion (Linn.) Schult.

Common name: Mission grass

Malayalam name: പുച്ചുവാലൻ പുല്ലു

Family: Poaceae

Description: An herbaceous tufted plant, annual or perennial, fluffy-white or purplish, native to tropical Africa, panicles close. It is an invasive species. Fl. & Fr. April- December

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: The plant has been used in Nigeria as a traditional means of preventing bleeding.

Biological activity: Insecticidal, larvicidal

Other uses: It is resistant to fires, hence useful for controlling erosion on hillsides. The fully mature culms make good paper pulp, also grown as ornamental

Locality: Botany and Environmental Biology Departments, Hymavathi pond area (both fluffy white and purple)



Peperomia pellucida (L.) Kunth

Common name: Slate pencil plant

Malayalam name: മഷിത്തണ്ടു ഛി

Family: Piperaceae

Description: Delicate annual herbs, native to South America. Fl. & Fr. September-December

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: The whole plant being crushed, mixed with water, heated, and then orally administered to stop haemorrhage. A root decoction used for treatment of fevers and mashed aerial parts applied topically or used as dressing for wounds. The plant is also used to treat abdominal pain, abscesses, acne, boils, colic, fatigue, gout, headache, renal disorders, rheumatic pain, breast cancer, impotence, measles, mental disorders, and smallpox

Biological activity: Anti-inflammatory, chemotherapeutic, and analgesic

Locality: Wet places in the whole campus, usually in pots



Phoenix sylvestris (L.) Roxb.

Common name: Wild date palm

Malayalam name: കാട്ടിന്തൽ

Family: Arecaceae

Description: A tree growing to at a slow rate, native to southern Pakistan, most of India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Burma and Bangladesh. Fl. March- May & Fr. September- October. The single seeded fruit ripens to a purple-red colour

Useful part: Roots, fruits

Traditional uses: Used to cure various ailments like abdominal complaints, fevers, loss of consciousness, constipation and in heart complaints. The sap of the plant is a laxative and is nutritious and cooling whereas the central tender part of the plant is used in the treatment of gonorrhoea. The root of the plant is useful to treat toothache, nervous debility and helminthiasis.

Biological activity: Antipyretic, cardiogenic, laxative diuretic and antioxidant.

Locality: Botany Department, way to Campus Ooty



Phyllanthus amarus Schum. & Thonn

Common name: Phyllanthus, carry me seed

Malayalam name: കീഴാൻ നെല്ലി

Family: Phyllanthaceae

Description: A small herb well known for its medicinal properties and widely used worldwide, native to America. Fl. & Fr. throughout the year

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: In Ayurveda used in the problems of stomach, genito-urinary system, liver, kidney and spleen. It is bitter, astringent, diuretic, febrifuge and antiseptic. The whole plant is used in gonorrhoea, menorrhagia, diarrhoea, dysentery, intermittent fevers, ophthalmopathy, scabies, ulcers and wounds.

Biological activity: Antiviral, antibacterial, diuretic, antiplasmodial, anti-inflammatory, antimalarial, antimicrobial, anticancer, antidiabetic, antioxidant, hypolipidemic, hepatoprotective nephroprotective,

Locality: Whole campus



Phyllanthus fraternus G.L. Webster

Common name: Gulf Leaf-Flower
Malayalam name: കീഴാർ നെല്ലി

Family: Phyllanthaceae

Description: A small erect annual herb. It is a common weed of wastelands native to the Americas. Fl. & Fr. May-August

Useful part: Whole plant, roots, leaves
fruits individually also

Traditional uses: Leaves diuretic, whole plant extract laxative, also used to treat gonorrhoea, dropsy, diarrhoea and malaria, fruits used in the treatment of ulcers, wounds, sores, scabies, ringworm and other skin problems, Fresh roots used against jaundice, and crushed with milk used as a galactagogue

Biological activity: Antiplasmodial, antimicrobial, antibacterial, antioxidant

Locality: Botany Department



Pilea microphylla (L.) Liebm.

Common name: Artillery plant, gunpowder plant

Family: Urticaceae

Description: An evergreen, ground-covering annual to short-lived perennial plant forming a dense mat of growth, native to Florida, Mexico and Brazil. Fl. And Fr. August-November

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: An infusion of the whole plant is used as a diuretic. The crushed leaves are applied commonly to sores and bruises to heal them. It is used to treat diarrhoea, asthma

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, antibacterial, antioxidant

Locality: Humid locations in the whole campus



Polyalthia longifolia (Sonn.) Thwaites

Common name: Ashoka tree

Malayalam name: അശോകവൃക്ഷം

Family: Annonaceae

Description: A lofty evergreen tree, native to India commonly planted due to its effectiveness in alleviating noise pollution. It exhibits symmetrical pyramidal growth with willowy weeping pendulous branches and long narrow lanceolate leaves with undulate margins. Fl. & Fr. March-May/July-September

Useful part: Almost all parts

Traditional uses: Used for the treatment of fever, skin diseases, diabetes, hypertension and helminthiasis.

Biological activity: Antioxidant, antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory, cytotoxic, antitumor, antiulcer, and hepatoprotective

Locality: Botany Department



Polyalthia suberosa Roxb.

Common name: Corky debbar tree

Family: Annonaceae (Sugar-apple family)

Description: An evergreen shrub or small tree, bark corky. Native range China to tropical Asia. Fruits numerous, ovoid or globose, purple. Fl. & Fr. September-March

Useful part: Roots, fruits

Traditional uses: A decoction of the fresh roots is used as abortifacient, relieves abdominal pain caused by muscular cramps, increases milk secretion. In Bangladesh, the bark is used as febrifuge, analgesic. Ripe fruits edible

Biological activity: Antibacterial, analgesic, anti-inflammatory, Antidiarrhoeal, cytotoxic, neuropharmacological

Locality: Botany Department, Campus Ooty



Pothos scandens L.

Common name: Climbing aroid

Malayalam name: ആനപ്പുറുവ
പരുവക്കൊടി

Family: Araceae

Description: a climbing shrub having adventitious aerial roots, and its native range W. Indian Ocean, Tropical & Subtropical Asia. Fl. & fruiting October- November

Useful part: Roots, leaves

Traditional uses: The bruised root of the plant applied to promote healing of abscesses, after being fried in oil. An infusion of the leaves of this plant used as a bath for curing convulsions and epilepsy, highly effective for snakebite

Biological activity: Antioxidant, antipyretic, antidiabetic, bronchodilator, diaphoretic.

Locality: Botany Department



Psidium guineense Sw.

Common name: Guinea guava

Malayalam name: കാട്ടുപേര

Family: Myrtaceae

Description: A relatively slow growing shrub, native to America. Fl. & Fr. January- October

Useful part: Bark, roots, leaves

Traditional uses: Extracts of the bark and roots are used to treat diarrhoea and dysentery. Extracts of the leaves are used to ease the common cold and bronchitis

Biological activity: Antimicrobial: antibacterial

Locality: Botany Department



Psilanthus benghalensis B. Heyne ex Schult (*Coffea benghalensis* Roxb.)

Common name: Bengal coffee

Family: Rubiaceae

Description: A wild Indian coffee species with low caffeine content. It is a deciduous shrub with pure white fragrant flowers, borne singly in leaf axils or paired. Native range is Nepal to Indo-China Fl. And Fr. March-May

Useful part: Flowers, fruits

Traditional uses: Flowers used in the treatment of cataract. The flowers were known for excessive bleeding during menstruation in Nepal. The root sap was consumed for scorpion bites in West India, and it was chewed or added to food to obtain an aphrodisiac effect in Ethiopia

Biological activity: Fruits have antimicrobial and antioxidant activities

Locality: Botany Department



Rauvolfia tetraphylla L.

Common name: Wild snake root

Malayalam name: പാമ്പുറകൊല്ലി

Family: Apocynaceae

Description: Grows as a bush or small tree, native to Mexico, Central America, West Indies and northern South America. Fl. & Fr. throughout the year

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: The plant is often gathered from the wild for local medicinal use and as the source of a dyestuff and ink. The latex in the plant is said to be cathartic, diuretic, emetic and expectorant. The plant is commonly used in the treatment of malaria in Guatemala, where it is also one of the reputed remedies for snake bites.

Biological activity: Antihypertensive and tranquilizer

Locality: Botany Department



***Saraca asoca* (Roxb.) Willd.**

Common name: Asoka tree

Malayalam name: അശോകം

Family: Fabaceae

Description: An evergreen shrub or small tree with a dense, spreading crown of horizontal branches, native to India. Fl. & Fr. January- May

Useful part: Bark, flowers

Traditional uses: The plant useful for treating a range of conditions related to the urinary system and female reproductive system. The bark is astringent, demulcent, diuretic, strongly haemostatic, oxytocic, neural tonic, refrigerant, sedative, uterine tonic, vermifugal. Flowers also diuretic. An extract of the flowers is useful in the treatment of haemorrhoids, dysentery, scabies in children and various skin diseases

Biological activity: Antiabortive, antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant.

Locality: Security office compound



***Scurrula cordifolia* (Wall) G. Don (= *Loranthus cordifolia* Wall.)** (species name unresolved as per The Plant List)

Common name: Heart-Leaf Mistletoe

Malayalam name: ഇത്തിൽ

Family: Loranthaceae

Description: A parasitic shrub, native to south-east Asia. Fl. & Fr. September-February

Useful part: Not known

Traditional uses: Not known

Biological activity: Not known

Locality: Hymavathi pond area



Sebastiania chamaelea (L.) Müll.Arg.(=*Microstachys chamaelea* (L.)

Common name: Creeping sebastiania
Malayalam name: കൊടിയാവണക്ക്,
ഞെട്ടാവണക്ക്

Family: Euphorbiaceae

Description: A creeping herb of sandy places native to north and south America from Arizona and the West Indies south to Uruguay. Fl. & Fr. July- December

Useful part: Leafy stems

Traditional uses: A decoction of the leafy stems is used as a bath to relieve teething pain in babies. In India, such a decoction taken with butter is considered a tonic, and is applied to the head as a treatment for vertigo. The plant sap is an astringent tonic that is taken to treat syphilis and diarrhoea

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, antibacterial

Locality: Whole campus in open places



Sesamum laciniatum Klein ex Willd.

Common name: Indian sesame oil Plant

Malayalam name: കാട്ടെള്ളി

Family: Pedaliaceae

Description: Prostrate, much-branched strong-smelling herbs native to India. Fl. & Fr. July-November

Useful part: Seeds

Traditional uses: According to traditional system of medicines, sesame is known to cure bleeding dysentery, burns, ear pain, headache and impotency

Biological activity: Lowering cholesterol, controlling blood pressure, dermatological disease management

Locality: Botany Department



Sesamum malabaricum Burm.

Common name: Malabar sesame

Malayalam name: കറട്ടെള്ളി

Family: Pedaliaceae

Description: A wild erect annual herb often mistaken for the cultivated sesame with unpleasant odour. Native to India. It is found throughout India, Populations weedy on roadsides. Fl. & Fr. October -December Seeds black

Useful part: Seeds

Traditional uses: Seeds harvested occasionally and used. The oil is used to treat cough and earache, and as an emmenagogue and abortifacient. Sesame seeds are valued for their laxative effect.

Biological activity: Antibacterial

Locality: Botany Department



Sesamum radiatum Schum. & Thonn

Common name: Black benninseed

Malayalam name: കറട്ടെള്ളി

Family: Pedaliaceae

Description: It is an erect annual plant growing up to 150cm tall. It is of African origin. Fl. & Fr. January-September

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: The aqueous leaf extract induced hypotension which was similar to those of oxytocin and caused a vasorelaxation and a stimulating effect on uterine smooth muscle contraction. In Nigeria and many other tropical areas, the leaves of *S. radiatum* are used for the treatment of catarrh, eye pain, bruises, and erupted skin lesions.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antifungal

Locality: Whole campus in open waste places and roadsides



Simarouba glauca DC.

Common name: Paradise tree

Malayalam name: ലക്ഷ്മിതരൂ

Family: Simaroubaceae

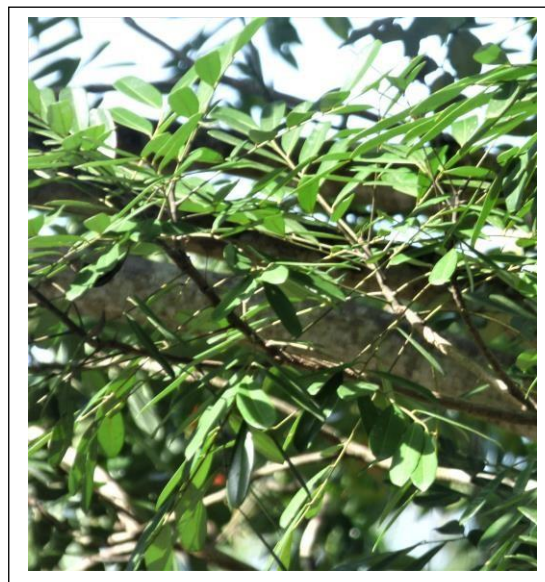
Description: An evergreen tree growing at a fast rate, native to Florida, South America, and the Caribbean. Fl. & Fr. December-February

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: Leaves and bark used in the treatment of malaria, fevers and dysentery; as an astringent to stop bleeding; and as a tonic, as a digestive, emmenagogue and to treat parasites both within and on the body

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antifungal, anti-diabetic, antioxidant, haemolytic, thrombolytic

Locality: Botany Department



Smilax zeylanica L.

Common name: Hill lotus, Wild smilax

Malayalam name: അരികണ്ണി,
കരീലാഞ്ചി

Family: Smilacaceae

Description: A large, dioecious, scandent climbing shrub armed with a few small distant prickles, native to India, Myanmar, Malaysia, Java and Solomon Islands. Fl. & Fr. July-January

Useful part: Roots, leaves

Traditional uses: used for the treatment of ulcers, syphilis, gonorrhoea, skin disease and acts like a blood purifier

Biological activity: Antibacterial

Locality: Whole campus in forest areas



Spathodea campanulata P. Beauv.

Common name: African tulip tree
Malayalam name: ഫൌണ്ടൻ മരം,
തണ്ണീർകായ് മരം, സ്പാത്തോഡിയ

Family: Bignoniaceae

Description: a large tree with glossy deep green pinnate leaves and glorious orange scarlet flowers, native to tropical dry forests of Africa. Fl. & Fr. December- March

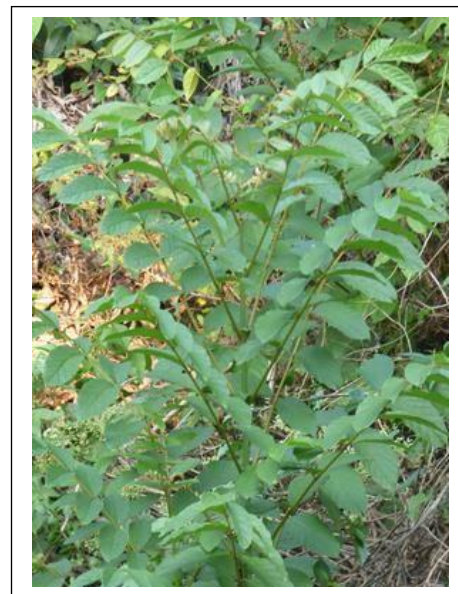
Useful part: Bark, leaves, flowers

Traditional uses: Extracts of bark, leaves and flowers are used to treat malaria, HIV, diabetes mellitus, oedema, dysentery, constipation, gastrointestinal disorders, ulcers, skin diseases, wounds, fever, urethral inflammation, liver complaints and as a poison antidote.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antioxidant, antiproliferative, cytotoxic

Other uses: ornamental, a wayside tree

Locality: Botany and Environmental Biology Departments, Campus Ooty



Spermacoce hispida L.

Common name: Shaggy button weed

Malayalam name: തറുതാവൽ

Family: Rubiaceae

Description: It is a perennial creeper, native to the temperate and tropical Asia. Fl. & Fr. May -August

Useful part: Aerial parts together, roots and leaves individually

Traditional uses: Commonly used herb in Siddha. It is one of the ingredients of Murivenna. Aerial parts taken as febrifuge, stimulant and tonic. Leaves applied in poultices to treat headache, wounds and sores. A decoction of the leaves considered an astringent and used to treat haemorrhoids. Decoction of the root used as mouth wash. Seeds given in the treatment of diarrhoea and dysentery.

Biological activity: Antidiabetic, anti-hypertensive, hepatoprotective, anti-inflammatory, antihyperlipidemic, analgesic, antifungal, anticancer and antioxidant

Locality: Whole campus in open, waste places



Spermacoce latifolia Aubl. (= *Borreria eradii* Ravi)

Common name: Oval leaf false button weed

Malayalam name: വെള്ളൂരവ്,
പച്ചപാല

Family: Rubiaceae

Description: Diffuse herbs; stem 4-angled and prominently winged. It is a noxious weed. Native of Tropical America. Fl. & Fr. August-October.

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: Not known

Biological activity: Antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, antioxidant, antitumor, mosquito larvicidal

Locality: Whole campus in open places



Spermacoce ocymoides Burm.f

Common name: Purple leaved button weed

Malayalam name: തറകീര, തറുതാവൽ

Family: Rubiaceae

Description: An erect, decumbent or procumbent annual herb, native to Mauritius, India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines. Fl. & Fr. November- December

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: The leaves are applied in a poultice as a treatment for headache. The finely crushed leaves are applied to wounds. The sap is used to treat eczema, worms and ringworm.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antifungal, anti-inflammatory

Locality: Botany and Computational Biology Departments



Spermacoce remota Lam.

Common name: Woodland false buttonweed
Family: Rubiaceae
Description: Annual or short-lived perennial decumbent herbs with often purple tinged stems, native to the south-eastern United States, West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America. It is a weed of gardens, lawns, roadsides and disturbed areas. Fl. and Fr. March-September
Uses: No reported uses except for a reported use for toothcare
Locality: Moist areas in the whole campus



Sphagneticola trilobata (L.) Pruski

Common name: Trailing daisy
Malayalam name: അമ്മിണിപ്പൂ, സിംഗപ്പൂർഡയ്സി
Family: Asteraceae
Description: A long-lived perennial herb with a prostrate, scrambling or climbing habit native to Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean. Fl. & Fr. Throughout the year
Useful part: Whole plant
Traditional uses: A strong decoction of the whole plant is used to treat severe chest colds.
Biological activity: Antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant
Locality: Botany Department



Spilanthes acmella (L.) Murray

Common name: Toothache plant
Malayalam name: പല്ലുവേദനച്ചെടി
Family: Asteraceae
Description: Procumbent annuals native to tropical South America Fl. & Fr. April-November
Useful part: The whole plant, flowers, leaves, roots, stems
Traditional uses: The most traditional use of this plant is to reduce toothache, also for stomatitis (Java), and to heal the wound
Biological activity: Antifungal, Antipyretic, Local anesthetic, Bioinsecticide, Antioxidant, Analgesic, Antimicrobial, vasorelaxant, anti-human immune deficit virus, anti-inflammatory
Locality: Whole campus in open places



Stachytarpheta jamaicensis Vahl

Common name: Aaron's rod
Malayalam name: ശീമക്കൊങ്ങിണി
Family: Verbenaceae
Description: Subshrubs, native throughout America and the Caribbean. Flowering and fruiting: June-December
Useful part: Whole plant, roots, leaves
Traditional uses: In the native range whole plant used as emetic, expectorant, sudorific and tonic, also used for treating malaria, yellow fever, amenorrhea, syphilis, and gonorrhoea. Root purifying, leaves astringent, cholagogue, hypotensive and purgative
Biological activity: Antimicrobial, antibacterial
Locality: Botany campus, in open, dry, disturbed areas



Strobilanthus ciliatus Nees

Common name: Lesser Kurinji
Malayalam name: കുരിംകുറിഞ്ഞി

Family: Acanthaceae

Description: Shrubs endemic to lower hills of Southern Western Ghats. Annual flowering occurs in this species from December to March

Useful part: Roots, leaves

Traditional uses: Roots thermogenic depurative, expectorant and tonic. Also used in conditions like rheumatism, lumbago, sciatica, skin diseases, cough, bronchitis etc. The leaves and bark used as diaphoretic, expectorant, leuko-derma leprosy and inflammation. Kurinji kuzhambu is a medicinal preparation given for women after delivery for good health

Biological activity: anti-inflammatory, analgesic, anti-microbial, antifungal, anti-diabetic, antioxidant, hepato-protective, cytotoxic

Locality: Botany Dept. (Medicinal garden)



Struchium sparganophorum (L.) Kuntze

Common name: Yerba De Faja

Family: Asteraceae

Description: A semi-succulent, semi-aquatic annual plant, Native of Tropical America naturalized in Western Ghats. Fl. and Fr. August-February

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: A tea made from the whole plant is taken as a treatment for headaches, colds, wheezing, asthma and backache. The juice of the whole plant is rubbed on cuts and ulcers. The leaves are used to treat children's convulsions.

Biological activity: Antimicrobial, antioxidant

Locality: Botany Dept.



Strychnos colubrina L.

Common name: Snake wood

Malayalam name:

കോളിക്കാഞ്ഞിരം **Family:**

Loganiaceae

Description: A climbing shrub, endemic to Kerala. Fl. & Fr. February- July

Useful part: Bark, wood, roots, leaves, fruits

Traditional uses: Although toxic, the hard, intensely bitter wood is used for the treatment of dyspepsia and malaria. The wood of the root is an antidote to snake poison, particularly of cobra. It is applied externally, and at the same time given internally. It is also used to cure intermittent fevers. The bruised fruit is applied to the head in the treatment of mania. The fresh leaves, rubbed into a paste with cashew nut kernels, is applied to suppurating tumours

Biological activity: Antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant

Locality: Sacred groves, Environmental Biology Dept.



Suregada angustifolia (Müll.Arg.) Airy Shaw

Common name: False lime tree

Family: Euphorbiaceae

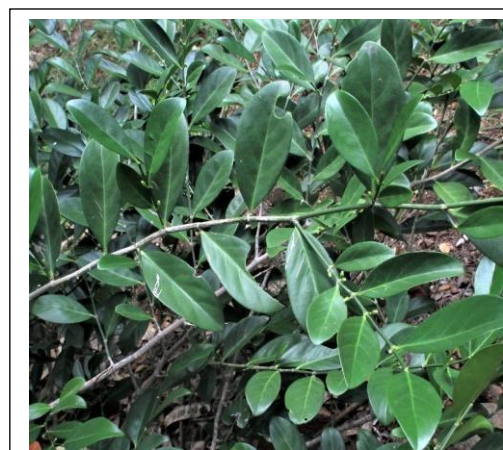
Description: Small trees, bark grey, native to Peninsular India, Sri Lanka. Fl. & Fr. September-May

Useful part: Stem Bark

Traditional uses: Stem bark (30 g) crushed with 50 ml of water and the prepared paste is applied to the body for skin infections. Stem bark (10 g) boiled with 50 ml of water and 20 g of salt used as a mouthwash to treat toothache (twice a day for 3 days).

Biological activity: Antibacterial, anti-fungal

Locality: Medicinal Garden, Botany Department



Synedrella nodiflora (L.) Gaertn

Common name: Cinderella weed

Malayalam name: മുടിയൻപച്ച

Family: Asteraceae (Sunflower family)

Description: An annual herb native to tropical America. Now a common weed in open fields and cultivated fields. Fl. & Fr. Throughout the year

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: Traditionally used by some Ghanaian communities to treat epilepsy. In Malaysia, it is applied externally to soothe inflammation and to assuage headache. The juice, expressed from the leaves mixed with the seeds of *Nigella sativa*, is used to assuage earache. In India, the leaves are used to treat rheumatism.

Biological activity: Anti-inflammatory

Locality: Botany Department, Himavathi pond area



Syzygium zeylanicum (L.) DC.

Common name: Cat's eye

Malayalam name: പുളിപ്പഴം

Family: Myrtaceae

Description: Evergreen trees, a native of the western ghats in Kerala Fl. & Fr. January- April

Useful part: Bark, leaves, wood

Traditional uses: None known

Biological activity: Antibacterial

Other uses: A black dye is obtained from the bark. The wood used for musical instruments, tool handles, furniture components, ship building, heavy carpentry and flooring.

Locality: Whole campus



Tabernaemontana divaricata (L.) R.Br. ex Roem. & Schult.

Common name: Crape jasmine, pinwheel flower

Malayalam name: കൂനമ്പാല

Family: Apocynaceae

Description: An evergreen shrub or small tree, native to India. Fl. & Fr. Throughout the year

Useful part: Whole plant, roots, leaves, flowers

Traditional uses: Whole plant used for the treatment of gastro-intestinal, urogenital and skin affections, roots astringent, a decoction is used in the treatment of diarrhoea and various abdominal complaints, an infusion is applied as a remedy for jungle fever. Roots, leaves, and flowers are all used in the treatment of snake and scorpion poisoning

Biological activity: Antibacterial, hypotensive

Other uses: The pulp around the seeds used as a red dye. Wood used as an incense and in perfumery

Locality: Environmental Biology Department



Tephrosia purpurea (L.) Pers

Common name: Wild indigo

Malayalam name: കെടാഴിഞ്ഞിൽ

Family: Fabaceae

Description: It is a common wasteland weed, tropical and s Africa, w Asia, Southern China, Indian subcontinent, Malesia, and northern Australia. In many parts it is under cultivation as green manure crop. Fl. & Fr. July- December

Useful part: Whole plant, leaves, roots, fruits

Traditional uses: All parts of the plant have tonic and laxative properties. The dried plant is diuretic and useful in treating bronchitis, liver, spleen and kidney disorders. It is also a blood purifier, in the treatment of boils and pimples. A decoction of the fruit is a treatment against intestinal worms. A fruit extract relieves bodily pains and inflammatory problems. Roots are anthelmintic. The pounded leaves are used against snake-bite

Biological activity: Antidiabetic, antioxidant, antimicrobial

Locality: Botany and Environmental Biology Departments



Tephrosia senticosa (L.) Pers.

Common name: Five-leaf tephrosia

Family: Fabaceae

Description: An annual or short-lived perennial herb, native of tropical Africa. Fl. & Fr. November- January. It is a near threatened species.

Useful part: None

Traditional uses: None known

Biological activity: None known

Locality: Botany Department



Tephrosia villosa L. Pers.

Common name: Hoary tephrosia

Family: Fabaceae

Description: An annual or perennial bushy herb, possibly native to Africa and India. Fl. & Fr. Throughout the year

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: African traditional medicine: The leaf juice used to treat dropsy and diabetes.

Biological activity: Antioxidant

Locality: Botany Department



***Terminalia bellerica* (Gaertn.) Roxb.**

Common name: Belliric myrobalan

Malayalam name: തൊന്നി

Family: Combretaceae

Description: A large fast-growing deciduous tree, with a large, globose crown, buttressed, up to 40 m tall with characteristic bark, common on plains and lower hills in Southeast Asia, where it is also grown as an avenue tree. Fl. & Fr. April- May

Useful part: Fruits, seeds

Traditional uses: Fruits (ripe) anthelmintic, astringent, digestive, tonic and laxative (unripe). Fruit used internally principally in the treatment of digestive and respiratory problems. In Indian herbal medicine the ripe fruit is used in cases of diarrhoea and indigestion, whilst the unripe fruit is used as a laxative in cases of chronic constipation. The sour fruits are one of the ingredients of 'triphala', an Ayurvedic rejuvenative.

Biological activity: Antimicrobial

Locality: Botany Department



***Terminalia catappa* Linn.**

Common name: Country almond

Malayalam name: നെൽക്കായ

Family: Combretaceae

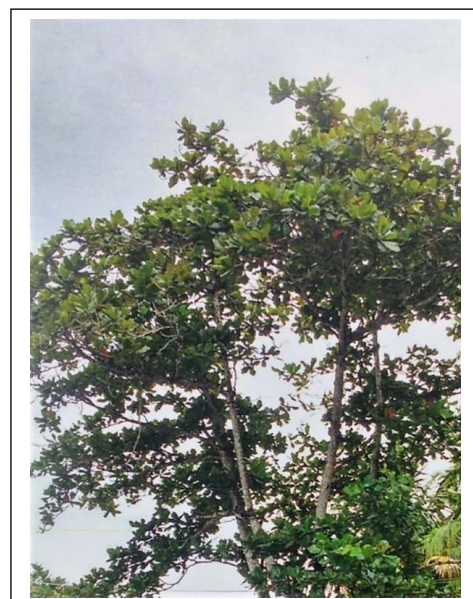
Description: The tree grows to 35 m tall, with an upright, symmetrical crown and horizontal branches. *Terminalia catappa* has corky, light fruits. As the tree gets older, its crown becomes more flattened to form a spreading, vase shape. Its branches are distinctively arranged in tiers. Fl. & Fr. Throughout the year

Useful part: Bark, Leaves, fruits

Traditional uses: Leaves and fruits astringent. Leaves, crushed with *Dacrydium elatum* and rhizomes of *Cyperus rotundus*, are combined to treat dysentery. The red leaves act as a vermifuge, while the sap of young leaves, cooked with oil from the kernel, is used to treat leprosy. The bark and root bark are useful for bilious fever, diarrhoea, thrush, and as a remedy for sores and abscesses.

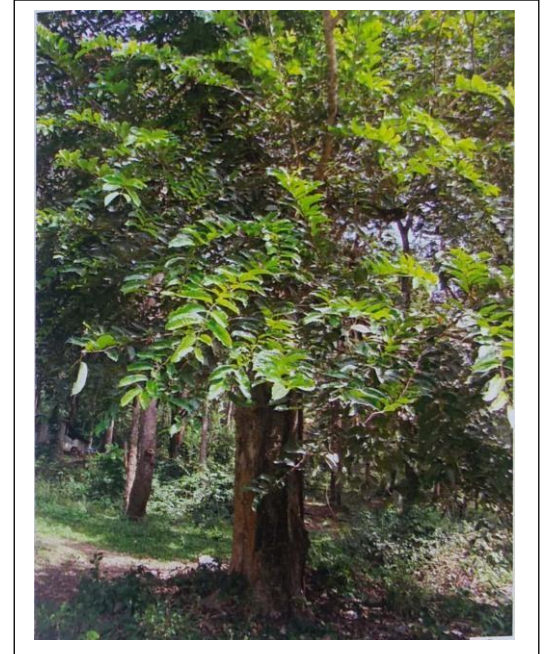
Biological activity: Antimicrobial: antibacterial

Locality: Whole campus



Terminalia paniculata Roth

Common name: English Flowering murdals
Malayalam name: വെൺമരുത്
Family: Combretaceae
Description: A semievergreen tree growing up to 33 meters tall, native to southwest India Known in the timber trade as kindal. Fl. & Fr. June- October
Useful part: Fruits, wood
Traditional uses: None known
Biological activity: Antimicrobial, antioxidant
Other uses: Fruits are a source of tannins and can be used as a dye. Wood used for agricultural implements, ship building and as a substitute for teak
Locality: Teacher's Hostel compound in the campus



Thysanolaena latifolia (Roxb. ex Hornem) Honda (= *Thysanolaena maxima* (Roxb.) Kuntze

Common name: Tiger grass, Asian broom grass
Family: Poaceae
Description: An erect, woody warm-season tropical clumping grass with broad leaves that resemble those of bamboo, native to China. Fl. & Fr. March- June
Useful part: Flowering panicles
Traditional uses: None known
Biological activity: Antimicrobial, antioxidant, cytotoxic
Other uses: The flowering panicles are used to make light, dust brooms
Locality: Botany Department



Tridax procumbens L.

Common name: Coat button

Malayalam name: കുമ്മിണിപച്ച,
ചിരവനാക്ക്, കുറികൂട്ടിച്ചീര,

Family: Asteraceae

Description: A perennial herb that has a creeping stem and pretty daisy-like flowers, native to the tropical Americas. Fl. & Fr. Throughout the year

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: The leaves antiseptic, haemostatic, parasiticide, also a treatment against bronchial catarrh, dysentery, and diarrhoea. The leaf powder, combined with that of *Cicer arietinum* in a 2:1 ratio, taken orally to treat diabetes. A fine paste of the leaves applied externally to reduce swelling of haemorrhoids and to stop bleeding. The leaf sap applied topically to sores and ulcers

Biological activity: Anticoagulant, antifungal, antidiarrhoeal, insect repellent

Locality: Whole campus



Triumfetta rhomboidea Jacq.

Common name: Common Bur bush

Malayalam name: ഊർപ്പം

Family: Malvaceae

Description: Erect, much branched woody herb or undershrub, native to tropical America. Fl. & Fr. August- January

Useful part: Whole plant, roots, bark, leaves, flowers

Traditional uses: A decoction of the root used as a remedy for internal ulcerations. Leaves antihypertensive, astringent, diuretic, mucilaginous and emollient. A decoction of the plant in rice water, or of the root and bark used to treat diarrhoea, dysentery, internal hemorrhages and gonorrhoea. Leaves and flowers used as a treatment against leprosy.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, anti-inflammatory

Other uses: A soft, glossy fiber is obtained from the bark

Locality: Botany Department, SBI premises,
Way to Campus Ooty



Turnera subulata Sm

Common name: White buttercup
Malayalam name: ചെറുവത്താലി

Family: Passifloraceae

Description: A shrubby or herbaceous perennial, woody at base, native to Central and South America, from Panama south to Brazil. Fl. & Fr. Throughout the year

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: used to treat boils

Biological activity: Anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, expectorant property.

Locality: Botany Department



Turnera ulmifolia Linn.

Common name: Yellow alder
Malayalam name: ചെറുവത്താലി

Family: Passifloraceae

Description: A polymorphic perennial herb, often woody at base, native to Mexico and the West Indies. Fl. & Fr. Throughout the year

Useful part: Leaves

Traditional uses: The plant is used in indigestion, bronchitis, cold, fever, boils and as a tonic. In India, it has been used for chest ailments, indigestion, biliousness, and rheumatism. In the Bahamas, it is used for sore throat, cold, and as an emmenagogue. In Haiti, it is used in vertigo, dysmenorrhea, haemorrhage, toothache, lumbago, and dyspepsia. In Java, the plant has been used for dysentery. In Mexico, the plant is used as tonic and for dyspepsia.

Biological activity: Antibacterial

Locality: Botany and Computational Biology Departments



Urena lobata L.

Common name: Caesar weed, Congo jute

Malayalam name: ഉറുർപ്പണം

Family: Malvaceae

Description: A tender perennial, variable, erect, ascendant shrub or subshrub native to Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Montserrat, and Saba. Fl. & Fr. January- April

Useful part: Roots, leaves

Traditional uses: The juice of the leaves or roots used widely to treat bowel complaints, especially colic, stomach-ache, diarrhoea and dysentery, and also to treat gonorrhoea and persistent fever from malaria. A decoction from the leaves and roots drunk to relieve pains all over the body due to excessive exertion. The whole plant macerated and used externally for treating fractures, wounds, mastitis and snake bites.

Biological activity: Antioxidant, Antimicrobial, Antidiabetic, Hypolipidemic

Locality: Whole campus



Uvaria narum Wall.

Common name: South Indian uvaria

Malayalam name: കുരീൽ, നറുംപാണൽ, കൊരണ്ടപ്പഴം

Family: Annonaceae

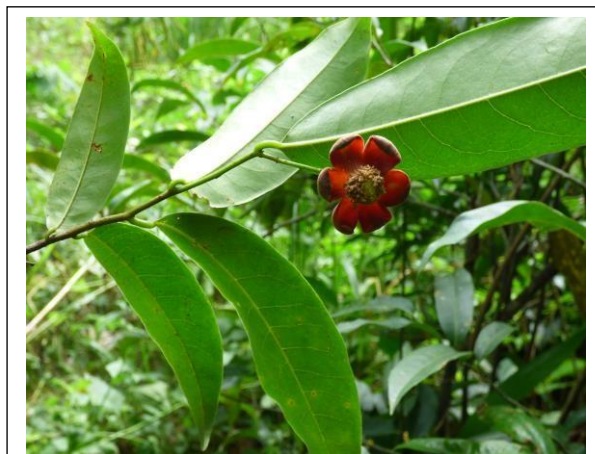
Description: A large woody stellate pubescent straggling climber with dark bluish green leaves, native to India and Sri Lanka. Fl. & Fr. November- June

Useful part: Roots, leaves

Traditional uses: Root and leaves-used in intermittent fevers, biliousness, jaundice, rheumatic affections; bruised in salt water used in skin diseases.

Biological activity: Antibacterial, antifungal, anthelmintic, cytotoxic, hepatoprotective

Locality: Whole campus



Vateria indica Linn

Common name: White Damar, Indian Copal tree
Malayalam name: കുന്തിരിക്കപ്പെൻ
Family: Dipterocarpaceae
Description: A large, evergreen tree, slow growing, bark is greyish, smooth. It is endemic to India. Fl. & Fr. January- March
Useful part: Resin of trunk, seed oil
Traditional uses: An oil obtained from the seeds is valued locally as an external application to relieve rheumatism. The bark and resin astringent
Biological activity: Antibacterial, anti-inflammatory
Other uses: Resin obtained from the tree used for making varnishes. The resin can be mixed with coconut oil and rolled into candles
Locality: Botany Department, Security Office compound



Waltheria indica L.

Common name: Boater bush
Family: Malvaceae
Description: Erect, branching herbs or under shrubs, native to Hawaii. Fl. & Fr. October- January
Useful part: Whole plant, leaves, stems, roots
Traditional uses: The plant is antisyphilitic and febrifuge. A decoction of the leafy stems is taken to relieve fevers, coughs, colds, bladder ailments, vaginal infections, hypertension, ulcers and as a remedy for hemoptysis. A decoction of the root is given as an antidiarrhoeal and general tonic to children
Biological activity: Antibacterial, antifungal, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory
Locality: Botany Department



Zamioculcas zamiifolia (Lodd.) Engl.

Common name: Zz plant

Family: Araceae

Description: An easy to grow and care for indoor plant that displays small glossy leaves on stems which can grow up to 3 ft long indoors, native to eastern Africa. The plant very rarely produces flowers

Useful part: Whole plant

Traditional uses: The plant juice is used to treat ear-ache in Tanzania. The entire plant to treat the inflammatory condition. The leaves of the plants are also used by the shamans in the jungles of Ghana to cure stomach ailments.

Biological activity: Antioxidant, cytotoxic

Locality: Botany Department



Ziziphus oenopia (L.) Miller

Common name: Jackal jujube

Malayalam name: തൂതാലി,
വൻതൂടലി

Family: Rhamnaceae

Description: Scandent shrubs with recurved thorns, indigenous to a large part of southern Asia, from India and Sri Lanka through Burma, Thailand, Indo-China, and the whole of Malesia. Fl. & Fr. July- November

Useful part: Roots, stem bark, leaves

Traditional uses: In India, the roots used in Ayurveda. The Konkani peoples of Maharashtra uses leaves as a dressing for wounds. In Burma, the stem barks used as a mouthwash for sore throats, dysentery, and for inflammation of the uterus

Biological activity: Antiplasmodial, antilisterial, antioxidant

Other uses: The berries are edible and the bark is used for tanning

Locality: Whole campus



Zornia diphylla (L.) Pers.

Common name: Two-leaf zornia

Malayalam name: മുറികൂട്ടി

Family: Fabaceae

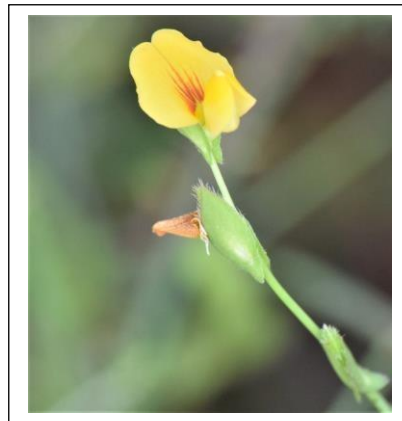
Description: Slender herbs, spreading from a central woody root stock, native range Indian Subcontinent to Indo-China. Fl. &Fr. November- January

Useful part: Whole plant, roots

Traditional uses: The root soporific and is used to induce sleep in children. The plant used to treat dysentery and venereal diseases

Biological activity: Antibacterial, anticonvulsant, anti-inflammatory

Locality: Botany Department



CAMPUS FAUNA

Phylum Arthropoda

Butterflies

***Acraea terpsicore* Linnaeus**

Common name: Tawny coster
Malayalam name: തീച്ചിറകൻ
Class: Insecta
Order: Lepidoptera
Family: Nymphalidae or brush-footed butterfly family
Description: A small tawny-red coloured, leathery-winged butterfly common in grassland and scrub habitats in Sri Lanka, India, Viet Nam, Thailand, Peninsular Malaysia and Singapore. It has a weak fluttery flight. It is avoided by most insect predators. It can be recognized by its unique wing shape and leisurely flight.
Locality: Whole campus in gardens



***Catopsilia pomona* Fabricius**

Common name: Common emigrant, lemon emigrant
Malayalam name: മഞ്ഞത്തകരമുത്തി
Class: Insecta
Order: Lepidoptera
Family: Pieridae
Description: A medium-sized pierid butterfly found in Asia, Cambodia and parts of Australia. Adult has characteristic lemon colour and has wingspan of about 55 mm. Male is plain and female has some black markings on upper side of wings. This species is known for the migration in flocks, community puddling and the activity. Grown individual is a fast flier and very much active during season. It prefers nectaring on flower such as Indian screw tree, Lantana and cosmos flower.
Locality: Whole campus in gardens



Danaus chrysippus Linnaeus

Common name: Plain tiger

Malayalam name: എരിക്കുതപ്പി

Class: Insecta.

Order: Lepidoptera

Family: Nymphalidae

Description: A medium-sized butterfly widespread in Asia, Australia and Africa. The open wings orange, without veins covered in scales. The forewings apex is black with large white spots, and there are black margins and one row of white dots on the hindwings. The hindwings margin is black with one row of white dots. The body is black with white dots. The orange colour is fainter, and the apex is orange instead of black. Wings veins are covered in white scale, and have several black spots in the middle of the hindwings. It flies in an undulating fashion and generally remains on wing for considerably long periods. It is seen visiting flowers of Lantana, Carissa, Zinnia, Celosia Marigold, Sunflower, Cockscomb, and Bougainvillea

Locality: Botany Dept. (gardens)



Euploea core Cramer

Common name: Common crow

Malayalam name: അരളി ശലഭം

Class: Insecta

Order: Lepidoptera

Family: Nymphalidae

Description: A common butterfly found in South Asia to Australia. *E. core* is a glossy black, medium sized 85–95 millimeters butterfly with rows of white spots on the margins of its wings. It is a slow, steady flier. Due to its unpalatability, it is usually observed gliding through the air with a minimum effort.

Locality: Whole campus in gardens



Graphium agamemnon Linnaeus

Common name: Tailed Jay
Malayalam name: വിറവാലൻ
Class: Insecta
Order: Lepidoptera
Family: Papilionidae
Description: A common and beautiful species seen in most Indian towns and villages close to forest areas. As with most *Graphium* species, the wings are produced at the forewing apex and hindwing tornus and the inner margin of the hindwing bends inwards. Above, the Tailed Jay has apple-green spots of various sizes on a black background. Underneath, the same green spotting can be found against a purple-brown background, and additional red spots are featured on the hindwing. Each hindwing has a short tail at vein 4, longer in the female than in the male.
Locality: very common on Botany Garden trees



Hypolimnas bolina Linnaeus

Common name: Great egg fly, Common egg fly: male
Malayalam name: വൻ ചൊട്ടശലഭം
Class: Insecta
Order: Lepidoptera
Family: Nymphalidae
Description: *H. bolina* is a black-bodied butterfly with a wingspan of about 70–85 millimeters. The upper side of the wings is jet black, with three pairs of white spots, two on the forewing and one on the hindwing. These spots are surrounded by purple iridescence. In addition, the upper side of the hindwing bears a series of small white dots. The upper side of the wings of the female is a brownish black and does not have any spots like those of the male. It is native to South and Southeast Asia
Locality: Whole campus (in garden trees)



Jamides celeno Cramer

Common name: Common cerulean
Malayalam name: പൊട്ടുവാലാട്ടി

Class: Insecta

Order: Lepidoptera

Family: Lycaenidae

Description: This species shows seasonal polyphenism. Male upper side has the ground colour pale bluish white. The underside is greyish brown. The hindwing is more or less uniformly coloured. It is crossed by nine white bands or lines. The forewing has seven transverse white bands. The female has the upper side ground colour paler than in the male. Antennae brownish black. The underside ground colour is paler than in the male, the markings however are identical. It is native to South and Southeast Asia

Locality: Whole campus (in gardens)



Junonia iphita Cramer

Common name: Chocolate pansy

Malayalam name: മയിക്കണ്ണി

Class: Insecta

Order: Lepidoptera

Family: Nymphalidae

Description: The wingspan is about 5–6 cm. The female is apart from the male by white markings on the oblique line on the underside of the hindwing. The wavy lines on the underside of the wings vary from wet- to dry-season forms. Upper side of both sexes brown. Underside brown, with very broad darker brown transverse fasciae. It is native to South and Southeast Asia

Locality: Whole campus gardens



Leptosia nina Fabricius

Common name: Psyche
Malayalam name: പൊട്ടുവെള്ളാട്ടി
Class: Insecta
Order: Lepidoptera
Family: Pieridae
Description: A small Pierid butterfly. The upper forewing has a black spot on a mainly white background. Upper and under sides white. Antennae dark brown spotted with white. Flight is weak and erratic and the body of the butterfly bobs up and down as it beats its wings. They fly low over the grass and the butterfly rarely leaves the ground level. Males and females almost similar. It is native to South and Southeast Asia
Locality: Whole campus (in grassy places)



Melanitis leda Linnaeus

Common name: Common evening brown
Malayalam name: കരിയില ശലഭം
Class: Insecta
Order: Lepidoptera
Family: Nymphalidae
Description: A common species of butterfly found flying at dusk. The flight of this species is erratic. Forewing with two large subapical black spots. Hindwing with a dark, white-centered, fulvous-ringed ocellus. Underside paler. Antennae, head, thorax and abdomen brown or greyish brown. It is native to South and Southeast Asia
Locality: Whole campus



Papilio polymnestor Cramer

Common name: Blue mormon

Malayalam name: കൃഷ്ണശലഭം

Class: Insecta

Order: Lepidoptera

Family: Papilionidae

Description: A large swallowtail butterfly native to South and Southeast Asia. It is the state butterfly of Maharashtra, India. Males have the upper wings rich velvety black. The hindwing has the terminal three-fourths pale blue, or greyish blue, with, subterminal and terminal series of black spots. The underside is black. Males and females similar.

Locality: Whole campus (in gardens)



Papilio polytes Linnaeus

Common name: Common mormon

Malayalam name: നാരകക്കാളി

Class: Insecta

Order: Lepidoptera

Family: Papilionidae

Description: A common species of swallowtail butterfly widely distributed across Asia. The male has one morph only. It is a dark-coloured swallow-tailed butterfly. The upper forewing has a series of white spots decreasing in size towards the apex. The upper hindwing has a complete distal band of elongated white spots. The males are generally smaller in size than the females. The female of the common Mormon is polymorphic.

Locality: Whole campus (in gardens)



Tirumala limniace Cramer

Common name: Blue tiger
Malayalam name: നീലക്കടുവ
Class: Insecta
Order: Lepidoptera
Family: Nymphalidae
Description: It is a large butterfly with broad wings, the ground colour is dark brown or black, and marked with numerous blue streaks and spots. The males have a brush at tip of the abdomen. They protrude it out and stroke the pouches of specialized scent scales on the hind wings to scatter the scent that attract the females. The caterpillars feed on Asclepiadaceous plants such as *Wattakaka volubilis*
Locality: Whole campus (on garden trees)



Ypthima huebneri Kirby

Common name: Common four ring
Malayalam name: നാൽകണ്ണി
Class: Insecta
Order: Lepidoptera
Family: Nymphalidae
Description: Upper side pale-brown. Fore wing with pre-apical ocellus, a brown ring surrounding it very broad and very broadly and diffusely produced downwards, hind wing with two, ocelli, underside greyish. Both wings crossed by dark bands. Host plants for caterpillars include a grass, *Axonopus compressus*
Locality: Whole campus (in the grassy fields)



Zizula hylax Fabricius

Common name: Tiny grass blue
Malayalam name: ചിന്നപുൽനീലി

Class: Insecta

Order: Lepidoptera

Family: Lycaenidae

Description: A widespread blue butterfly species, known from West Africa across Tropical Asia to Northern Australia. It completes its life cycle in 16 – 18 days. The average wingspan of the species is about 8-11 mm. The upper side of the male is light blue whilst the female is dark brown.

Locality: Whole campus (in grassy places)



Dragon flies

Agriocnemis pieris Laidlaw

Common name: Indian white dartlet
Malayalam name: വെള്ളപ്പുൽ ചിന്നൻ

Class: Insecta

Order: Odonata

Family: Coenagrionidae

Description: A slender, small damselfly bluish white in colour with dorsal black spots. Eyes pale blue with a black cap. Thorax black on dorsum and pale blue on the sides, abdomen pale blue. Males and females similar. It is found in India and Bangladesh.

Locality: Whole campus



Agriocnemis pygmaea Rambur

Common name: Pygmy dartlet,
Wandering wisp
Malayalam name: നാട്ടുപുൽ ചിന്നൻ
Class: Insecta
Order: Odonata
Family: Coenagrionidae
Description: One of the smallest yet most widely distributed damsel flies in the world with black capped green eyes, black thorax with apple green stripes on lateral sides. It is well distributed across Asia and parts of Australia
Locality: Whole campus gardens



Brachydiplax chalybea Brauer

Common name: Yellow-patched lieutenant, blue dasher, rufous-backed marsh hawk
Malayalam name: തവിട്ടുവെണ്ണിറാൻ
Class: Insecta
Order: Odonata
Family: Libellulidae
Description: A species of dragonfly, wings hyaline. Female is brownish yellow in colour with darker markings along the dorsal abdomen. It is native to much of eastern Asia, from India to Japan to Indonesia.
Locality: Whole campus gardens



Ceriagrion cerinorubellum Brauer

Common name: Orange tailed marsh dart
Malayalam name: കനൽ വാലൻ ചതുപ്പൻ
Class: Insecta
Order: Odonata
Family: Coenagrionidae
Description: It is a very common species of damselflies in Asia. It is a medium sized damselfly with greenish eyes, bluish above. Its thorax is yellowish green. Males and females similar in appearance. It breeds in weeded ponds, marshes and other still water forms.
Locality: Whole campus gardens near ponds



Ceriagrion coromandelianum Fabricius

Common name: Coromandel marsh dart, yellow wax tail
Malayalam name: നാട്ടുചതുപ്പൻ
Class: Insecta
Order: Odonata
Family: Libellulidae
Description: This species can be found in South Asian countries such as: India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Nepal. It flies among bushes and breeds in stagnant pools, small garden tanks, tubs and ornamental cement ponds containing submerged and/or floating vegetation.
Locality: Botany Dept. (gardens)



Copera marginipes Rambur

Common name: Yellow bush dart
Malayalam name: മഞ്ഞക്കാലി പാൽത്തുമ്പി
Class: Insecta
Order: Odonata
Family: Platycnemididae
Description: A medium sized fly with brown-capped yellow eyes with a narrow equatorial black band encircling them, in the family white legged damsel fly. Thorax bronze black with fine yellow lines on sides. Legs yellowish orange. Wings transparent. Abdomen bronzed black above. It is native to Asia. Commonly found in among undergrowth.
Locality: Undergrowth of whole campus (near garden trees and bushes)



Crocothemis servilia Drury

Common name: Scarlet skimmer, ruddy marsh skimmer
Malayalam name: വയൽത്തുമ്പി, നീർമുത്തൻ
Class: Insecta
Order: Odonata
Family: Libellulidae
Description: A medium sized dragonfly with a thin black line along the mid-dorsal abdomen. Eyes blood-red above, purple laterally. Thorax bright ferruginous dorsum. Abdomen with a narrow black mid-dorsal carina. Female is similar to the male. It is native to east and southeast Asia
Locality: Moist places in the whole campus



Diplacodes trivialis Rambur

Common name: Chalky percher, ground skimmer
Malayalam name: നാട്ടു നിലത്തൻ
Class: Insecta
Order: Odonata
Family: Libellulidae
Description: A small dragon fly with bluish eyes and greenish-yellow or olivaceous thorax and abdomen with black markings. It is native to Asia and Australia. It is one of the most common dragonflies in Asia, found in both the plains and hills and in dry and wet areas
Locality: Whole campus



Ictinogomphus rapax Rambur

Common name: Indian common club tail
Malayalam name: നാട്ടുകുടടുവ
Class: Insecta
Order: Odonata
Family: Gomphidae
Description: A large yellow and black coloured dragonfly with bluish-grey eyes. Thorax black, marked with yellow or greenish-yellow stripes, abdomen also black with bright yellow marks. It is found throughout the Orient region
Locality: Perches near ponds in the whole campus gardens



Ischnura rubilio Selys

Common name: Western golden dartlet.
Malayalam name: മഞ്ഞപ്പൂൽ മാണിക്യൻ
Class: Insecta
Order: Odonata
Family: Coenagrionidae
Description: A small apple green damselfly with black thoracic stripes, black capped olive-green eyes, and blue tipped yellow tail. Thorax bronzed black coloured on dorsal side, abdomen rusty-yellow. It breeds in weedy ponds, lakes and marshes. It is found in Indian subcontinent and Iran
Locality: Whole campus gardens near ponds



Neurothermis tullia Drury

Common name: The pied paddy skimmer
Malayalam name: സ്വാമിത്തുമ്പി
Class: Insecta
Order: Odonata
Family: Libellulidae
Description: A black dragonfly with a pale yellow mid-dorsal carina of thorax. Wings hyaline for apical half and opaque steely blue-black for basal half which is bordered by a milky white patch towards the tip. It perches very close to ground and its flight is very weak. It is found in south and south-east Asia
Locality: In gardens near ponds in the whole campus



Orthetrum chrysis Selys

Common name: Spine-tufted skimmer, brown-backed red marsh hawk
Malayalam name: ചെന്തവിടൻ വയലി, ചെന്തവിടൻ വ്യാളി
Class: Insecta
Order: Odonata
Family: Libellulidae
Description: A medium sized dragonfly with dark thorax and blood-red abdomen. The thorax is brown coloured and the eyes are coffee brown above, bluish grey below. it breeds in ponds, pools and marshes. It is widespread in many Asian countries
Locality: Whole campus gardens near ponds



Orthetrum glaucum Brauer

Common name: Blue marsh hawk
Malayalam name: നീല വ്യാളി
Class: Insecta
Order: Odonata
Family: Libellulidae
Description: An Asian dragonfly species, common across much of tropical and subtropical Asia. It is a medium sized fly with dark reddish-brown eyes, dark green capped greyish black thorax and a blue tail.
Locality: Moist places in campus gardens



Orthetrum sabina Drury

Common name: Green Marsh Hawk, Green Skimmer, Green Tiger
Malayalam name: പച്ച വ്യാളി
Class: Insecta
Order: Odonata
Family: Libellulidae
Description: A medium-sized dragonfly grayish to greenish yellow with black and pale markings and green eyes. Abdomen is greenish-yellow, marked with black. Males and females similar in shape, size and colour. It is found throughout Indian subcontinent up to an altitude of 2000m
Locality: Moist places in the whole campus gardens



Pantala flavescens Fabricius

Common name: The globe skimmer, globe wanderer, wandering glider
Malayalam name: തുലാത്തുമ്പി
Class: Insecta
Order: Odonata
Family: Libellulidae
Description: The dragonfly is up to 4.5 cm long, wingspans between 7.2 cm and 8.4 cm. The front side of the head is yellowish to reddish. Thorax usually yellow to golden coloured with a dark and hairy line. Wings clear and very broad at the base. It is considered to be the most widespread dragonfly on the planet.
Locality: Whole campus gardens



Potamarcha congener Rambur

Common name: Yellow-tailed ashy skimmer, common chaser, swamp watcher

Malayalam name: പുളളിവാലൻ

Class: Insecta

Order: Odonata

Family: Libellulidae

Description: The species is common in South Asia, South-East Asia, and Oceania, including in countries such as India, Indonesia, China, Australia, and Vietnam. A medium sized fly with a bluish black thorax and yellow tail with black markings. Face is olivaceous yellow to steel black or brown. Eyes are reddish brown above and bluish grey below.

Locality: In the whole campus near small ponds, rice fields or marshes



Rhyothemis variegata Linnaeus

Common name: Common picture wing

Malayalam name: ഓണത്തുമ്പി

Class: Insecta

Order: Odonata

Family: Libellulidae

Description: A medium-sized dark bodied dragonfly with colorful wings tinted with pale yellow. There are a few black spots on the apices and nodes of the fore-wings. There is a large patch in the base of the hind-wings, marked with black and golden yellow. It is found in South Asia

Locality: Whole campus gardens near ponds



Tramea limbata Desjardins

Common name: Black marsh trotter, ferruginous glider and voyaging glider
Malayalam name: കരിമ്പൻ പറുന്തൻ
Class: Insecta
Order: Odonata
Family: Libellulidae
Description: A medium sized red dragonfly with extremely long anal appendages. The fly is characterized by the dark-brown hind-wing patch, not surrounded by a golden yellow areola, in the base. The species is widespread in Africa, Arabia and southern Asia
Locality: Bushy areas in the whole campus and over ponds and open spaces in sunny days



Trithemis aurora Burmeister

Common name: Crimson marsh glider
Malayalam name: സിന്ദൂരത്തുമ്പി
Class: Insecta
Order: Odonata
Family: Libellulidae
Description: The male of the species is distinctly different from the female. The male has a reddish-brown face, with eyes that are crimson above and brown on the sides. Thorax red, abdomen base swollen, crimson with a violet tinge, wings transparent with crimson venation. The wing spots dark reddish-brown and the legs black
Locality: Commonly found in weedy ponds in the whole campus



Spiders

Argiope pulchella Jäger & Praxaysombath

Common name: Garden cross spider, orb weaver

Malayalam name: മഞ്ഞ ചിലന്തി

Class: Arachnida

Order: Araneae

Family: Araneidae

Description: It is a synanthropic species, often living in habitats associated with humans. Body brightly coloured with fine hairs. Eyes placed on tubercle. Alternate white, yellow, black or red coloured parallel bands lines the entire abdomen. White spots present dorsally across the black-coloured band of the abdomen.

Abdomen is broad but tapers distally. Legs long, dark yellow with alternate brown patches. It is found in India, China and also Java

Locality: Gardens plants in Botany Department



Atrax robustus O. P. Cambridge

Common name: Funnel web spider

Class: Arachnida

Order: Araneae

Family: Atracidae

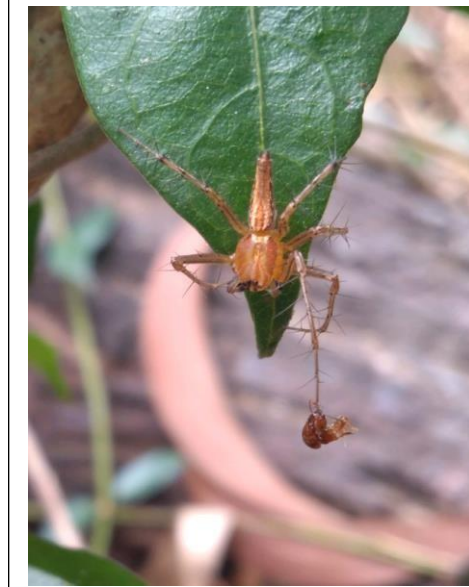
Description: A species of venomous mygalomorph, native to eastern Australia. The Sydney funnel-web is medium to large in size. Both sexes are glossy and darkly coloured, ranging from blue-black, to black, to brown or dark-plum coloured. The carapace covering the cephalothorax is almost hairless and appears smooth and glossy. Another characteristic are finger-like spinnerets at the end of their abdomen.

Locality: Environmental Biology Department



Oxyopes macilentus L. Koch

Common name: Lean lynx spider
Class: Arachnida
Order: Araneae
Family: Oxyopidae
Description: Body colour ranges from pale white to yellow, orange, or green. It has black and orange lines running the length of its body. It hunts on foliage in the daytime, eating invertebrates including other spiders. It is found in East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and northern Australia
Locality: Vegetated areas in whole campus especially in grasses



Oxyopes shweta Tikader

Common name: White Lynx Spider, Shweta Lynx spider
Class: Arachnida
Order: Araneae
Family: Oxyopidae
Description: An active hunter commonly seen in green leaves of plants actively searching for prey. Cephalothorax covered with white pubescence. Two distinct black longitudinal lines present, starting from below of anterior median eye up to above of chelicerae. Abdomen elongated and tapered posteriorly. A white band extends longitudinally on the abdomen mid- dorsally. Legs are long, spiny and greenish-brown in colour. It is distributed in India and China.
Locality: Found in grasses and shrubby vegetation in the whole campus



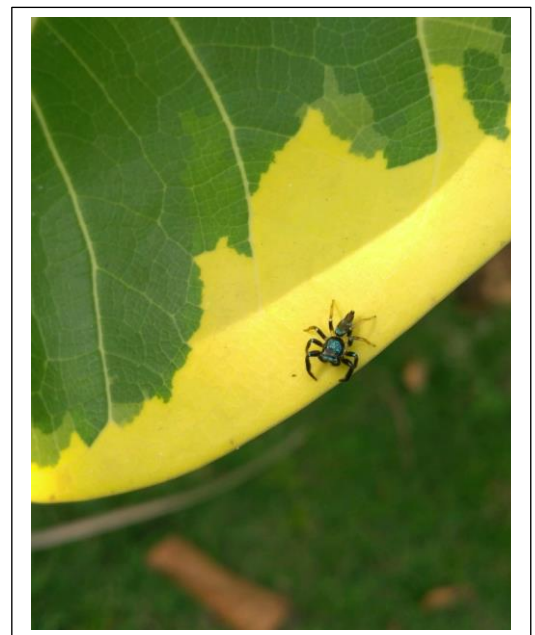
Stenaelurillus lesserti Reimoser

Common name: Lessert's rainbow spider
Class: Arachnida
Order: Araneae
Family: Salticidae
Description: It is a species of jumping spiders. Thoracic part with broad yellowish-white lateral bands, it is dorsally with paired white longitudinal bands extending back from the rear eyes. Eye field black with covering of violet scales. Anterior row of eyes encircled with red and yellow scales and black hairs. Chelicerae short, yellowish-brown. The species is distributed in India and Sri Lanka.
Locality: Commonly found in scrub regions in the whole campus



Thiania bhamoensis Thorell

Common name: Metallic blue jumper, fighting spider
Class: Arachnida
Order: Araneae
Family: Salticidae
Description: *T. bhamoensis* is a species of jumping spider. The species is iridescent green-blue. Females are greener, males bluer. Cephalothorax black, flat and longer than broad. Abdomen is elongated, rounded at the front. First pair of legs slightly swollen and larger. It is not an active hunter, but tends to remain in wait near and in the nest for the prey to stray within leaping distance. This species is distributed throughout Southeast Asia.
Locality: Common in leaves of garden plants in the whole campus



Honey bee

Apis dorsata Fabricius

Common name: The giant honey bee

Malayalam name: വൻതേനീച്ച

Class: Insecta

Order: Hymenoptera

Family: Apidae

Description: *A. dorsata*, is a honey bee of South and Southeast Asia. *A. dorsata* looks very similar to *A. mellifera*, but is larger in size. *Apis dorsata* workers can be up to 3 cm in length, which is almost twice the length of an *A. mellifera* worker. Queens are usually darker than workers. Males or drones have large eyes, short, round abdomens, and lack a stinger. It differs from the other bees in its genus in terms of nest design

Locality: Trees and shrubs of Botany Department



Ants

Diacamma assamensis Emery

Common name: Indian queen less ant

Malayalam name: കട്ടുറുമ്പ്

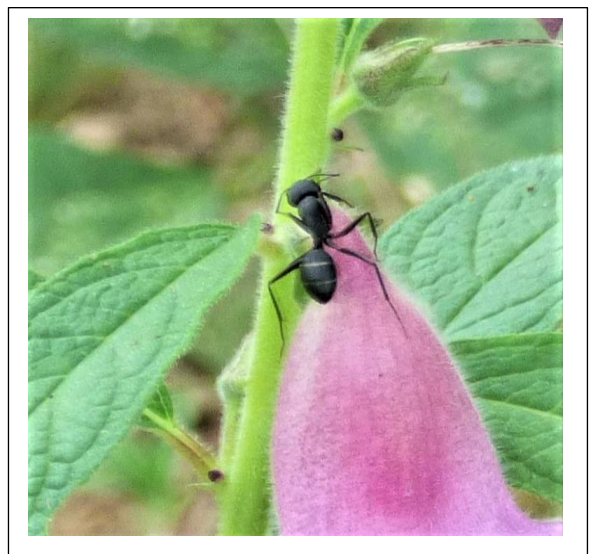
Class: Insecta

Order: Hymenoptera

Family: Formicidae

Description: A ground dweller. An alate queen is entirely absent. Instead, a worker with intact gemmae (thoracic appendages), the so-called “gamergate”, mates with the winged males and lays eggs. All other workers are infertile, due to removal of their gemmae by the gamergate. Distribution: India, Myanmar

Locality: Whole campus



Oecophylla smaragdina Fabricius

Common name: Weaver ants, green ants

Malayalam name: പുളിയുറുമ്പ്, നീറ്

Class: Insecta

Order: Hymenoptera

Family: Formicidae

Description: They are eusocial insects. Weaver ants live in trees and are known for their unique nest building behaviour where workers construct nests by weaving together leaves using larval silk. They can be used for biological control of pests such as brown planthopper.

Locality: Tree dweller in Environmental biology campus



Millipedes

Spinotarsus colosseus Attems

Common name: Colossal slender spined millipede

Malayalam name: ഭീമൻ അട്ട

Class: Diplopoda

Order: Spirostreptida

Family: Odontopygidae

Description: Both males and females of *S. colosseus* are of dark black colour. The length, width, and weight of the millipede range from 6.5–15.4 cm, 0.3–1.0 cm, and 5.5–15.7 g, respectively. The number of body segments in adult is 55–58. It has superior ability to degrade the waste materials and close association with soil organisms.

Locality: Soil dweller in the whole campus



Phyllogonostreptus nigrolabiatus Newport

Common name: Large black millipede

Malayalam name: ഭീമൻ അട്ട, പെരുമാൾ അട്ട

Class: Diplopoda

Order: Spirostreptida

Family: Harpagophoridae

Description: A common species of biodegradator millipede found in South Asia especially southern India, and Sri Lanka. A full-grown specimen is about 12 to 22 cm in length.

Locality: Found mostly in grassy places in the whole campus



Phylum Chordata

Reptiles

Ahaetulla nasuta La Cépède

Common name: Tree vine snake

Malayalam name: പച്ചിലപാമ്പ്

Class: Reptilia

Order: Squamata

Family: Colubridae

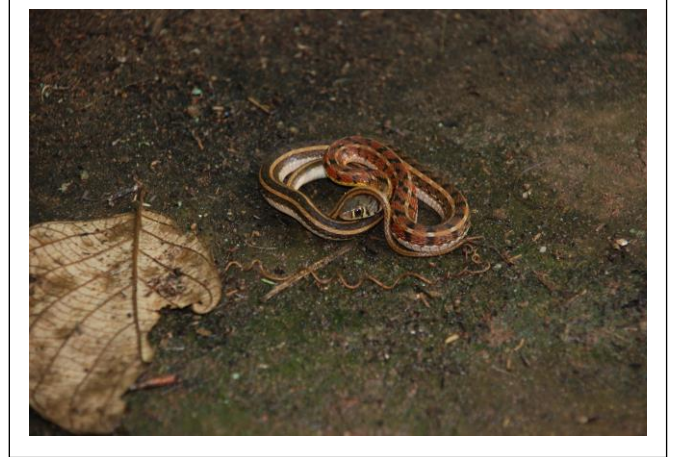
Description: A slender green tree snake India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand and Cambodia. Snout pointed, terminating in a dermal appendage. Scales in 15 rows It is diurnal and mildly venomous. This arboreal snake normally feeds on frogs and lizards. They are slow moving. They are the only species of snake with horizontal pupils. The species is viviparous, giving birth to young ones

Locality: Found in low bushes, shrubs and trees in the forest and semi forest areas whole campus



Amphiesma stolatum Linnaeus

Common name: Striped keelback
Malayalam name: തെയ്യൻ പാമ്പ്
Class: Reptilia
Order: Squamata
Family: Colubridae
Description: A nonvenomous non-aggressive snake, closely related to water snakes and grass snakes. It is a small, slender snake generally olive-brown to grey in colour. The head and the body are of the same colour. The head tapers to form a distinctive neck. The species is distributed in south and southeast Asia
Locality: The snake inhabits well-watered places in the whole campus



Bungarus caeruleus Schneider

Common name: Common Krait
Malayalam name: വളവളപ്പൻ, ശംഖുവരയൻ, വെള്ളിക്കട്ടൻ
Class: Reptilia
Order: Squamata
Family: Elapidae
Description: A species of highly venomous snake. Males longer, with proportionately longer tails. The head flat and the neck hardly evident. Body cylindrical, tapering towards the tail. Tail short and rounded. Eyes rather small, with rounded pupils. Scales in 15-17 rows
Locality: It is found in fields and low scrub vegetation in the whole campus



Coelognathus helena Daudin

Common name: Common Trinket Snake

Malayalam name: കോട്ടുപാമ്പ്

Class: Reptilia

Order: Squamata

Family: Colubridae

Description: A nonvenomous constrictor species of colubrid snake native to south Central Asia. The adults are darker brown, with a transverse series of squarish black spots. There is a vertical black streak below the eye, and an oblique black streak behind the eye.

Locality: In the whole campus, partly arboreal



Daboia russelii Shaw & Nodder

Common name: Russell's Viper

Malayalam name: ചേനത്തണ്ടൻ

Class: Reptilia

Order: Squamata

Family: Viperidae

Description: A species of venomous snake native to the Indian subcontinent. The head is flattened, triangular, and distinct from the neck. The snout is blunt, rounded, and raised. The nostrils are large, each in the middle of a large, single nasal scale. The colour pattern consists of a deep yellow, tan, or brown ground colour, with three series of dark brown spots that run the length of the body.

Locality: In open, grassy or bushy areas in the whole campus



Dendrelaphis tristis Daudin

Common name: Common bronze back tree snake

Malayalam name: വില്ലൂന്നി

Class: Reptilia

Order: Squamata

Family: Colubridae

Description: A species of nonvenomous tree-snake found in South Asia. It is a long, slender snake with a pointed head and a bronze-coloured line running right down its back. It can be easily identified by checking a rounded whitish spot on the top of head, very thin body which shows sky blue dots on dorsal surface and most of the side dorsal & belly of yellowish-white colour.

Locality: The snake prefers tree tops to life on the ground in the whole campus



Indotyphlops braminus Daudin

Common name: Brahminy Blind snake

Malayalam name: ബ്രഹ്മണിക്കൂരുടി

Class: Reptilia

Order: Testudines

Family: Typhlopidae

Description: A nonvenomous blind snake species found mostly in Africa and Asia. They are completely burrowing animals, with habits and appearance similar to earthworms, for which they are often mistaken. Adults are small, thin, and shiny silver gray, charcoal gray, or purple. The head and tail-tip are indistinct, the neck is not narrow and the eyes are only small dot-like remnants under the scales. The tail is tipped with a tiny pointed spur. The head scales are small and similar to body scales. The belly is grayish to brown. The scales are smooth and shiny, there are 14 dorsal scale rows along the entire body. Juvenile coloration is similar to that of adults

Locality: Found underground in ant and termite nests in the whole campus



Lycodon aulicus Linnaeus

Common name: Common wolf snake
Malayalam name: വെള്ളിവാറയൻ

Class: Reptilia
Order: Squamata
Family: Colubridae

Description: A nonvenomous snake found in South and Southeast Asia. It is a medium size snake having brown body and yellowish bands. This is one of the most common species found in and around human habitation including exclusive urban areas. This is the most widely distributed *Lycodon* species in Indian subcontinent.

Locality: In the campus usually found as partly arboreal in hollow trees, under bark etc. They live in stone piles, under heavy objects etc.



Naja naja Linnaeus

Common name: Spectacled Cobra
Malayalam name: മുൻപൻ

Class: Reptilia
Order: Squamata
Family: Elapidae

Description: The Indian cobra is a moderately sized, heavy bodied species. This cobra species can easily be identified by its relatively large and quite impressive hood, which it expands when threatened. This species has a head which is elliptical, depressed, and very slightly distinct from the neck. The snout is short and rounded with large nostrils. The eyes are medium in size and the pupils are round

Locality: Usually found in the cultivated areas in the campus



Ptyas mucosa Linnaeus

Common name: Oriental rat snake

Malayalam name: ചേര

Class: Reptilia

Order: Squamata

Family: Colubridae

Description: A common species of colubrid snake found in parts of South and Southeast Asia. re large snakes. Typical mature total length is around 1.5 to 1.95 m. They are wary, quick to react, and fast-moving. Snout obtuse, slightly projecting; eye large. Brown above, frequently with more or less distinct black crossbands on the posterior part of the body and on the tail. Lower surface yellowish

Locality: In the whole campus found remain hidden in dark and silent places like rat holes, termite mounds, under rocks or any narrow and dark place.



Calotes rouxii Dum. & Bibr.

Common name: Roux's forest lizard

Malayalam name: റോക്സിൻ്റെ ഓൺ

Class: Reptilia

Order: Squamata

Family: Agamidae

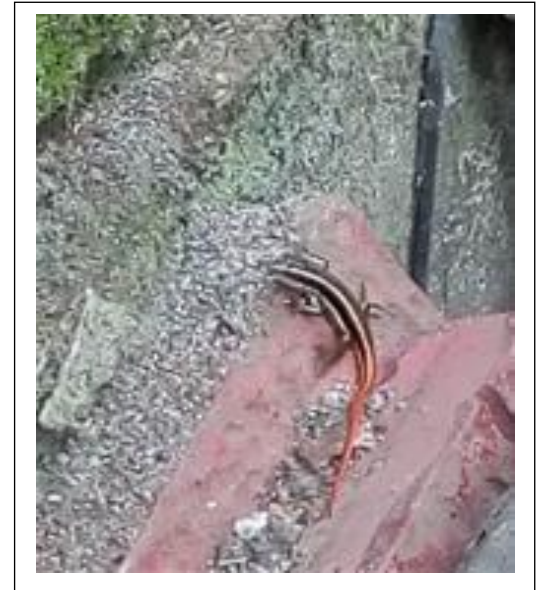
Description: Lizards of the genus *Calotes* are geographically restricted to South Asia, in India from Bombay to Kerala. Body is dwarfed, cheeks swollen in adult male. Dorsal colour is olive-brown. Head is moderately large. tail is long, in adult male swollen at the base. It is Insectivorous, diurnal, terrestrial and arboreal. It belongs to the category of vulnerable on account of habitat destruction.

Locality: Trees and shrubs in the whole campus



Sphenomorphus dussumieri A.M.C. Duméril & Bibron

Common name: Dussumier's forest skink
Malayalam name: അരണി
Class: Reptilia
Order: Squamata
Family: Scincidae
Description: *S. dussumieri* is a diurnal skink endemic to southern India. Head of *S. dussumieri* distinct from the neck, and the snout is short. The tympanum situated on the surface, not sunk as in other skinks. Body slender, dorsal scales smooth, with fine striations. The limbs relatively short. A light dorso-lateral stripe running from the eye to the side of the body, its inner edge with a dark brown, white spotted streak.
Locality: Found on trees and also open spaces in the whole campus



Birds

Accipiter badius Gmelin

Common name: Shikra
Malayalam name: പ്രാപിടിയൻ
Class: Aves
Order: Accipitriformes
Family: Accipitridae
Description: The shikra is a small bird of prey in the family Accipitridae. It is a common, widespread resident across Asia and Africa. Shikra is one of the commonest hawks in India. Its name has been derived from Urdu, and the Hindi word, shikari, meaning hunter. Shikra is a small raptor (26–30 cm long) and like most other *Accipiter* hawks. The shikra is found in a range of habitats including forests, farmland and urban areas. They are usually seen singly or in pairs. They feed on rodents, squirrels, small birds, small reptiles (mainly lizards but sometimes small snakes and insects). The breeding season in India is in summer from March to June. The nest is a platform similar to that of crows lined with grass. Both sexes help build the nest.
Locality: Trees in the Environmental biology Department



Acridotheres tristis Linnaeus

Common name: Common myna
Malayalam name: മാടരത്ത, മൈന
Class: Aves
Order: Passeriformes
Family: Sturnidae
Description: An omnivorous open woodland bird with a strong territorial instinct, the common myna has adapted extremely well to urban environments. native to Asia. The brown body, black hooded head and the bare yellow patch behind the eye are diagnostic features of the species. The bill and legs are bright yellow. The sexes are similar and birds are usually seen in pairs.
Locality: Open places in the whole campus



Arachnothera longirostra Latham

Common name: Little spiderhunter
Malayalam name: തേൻകിളിമാടൻ
Class: Aves
Order: Passeriformes
Family: Nectariniidae
Description: A species of long-billed nectar-feeding bird, native of South and Southeast Asia. Bill is slightly decurved. Under parts olive back, lemon-yellow. The distinctive long beak set it apart from other sunbirds. Male has all black beak. Despite its name, also eats insects and nectar from flowers.
Locality: Found near flowering plants in the campus, where they obtain nectar.



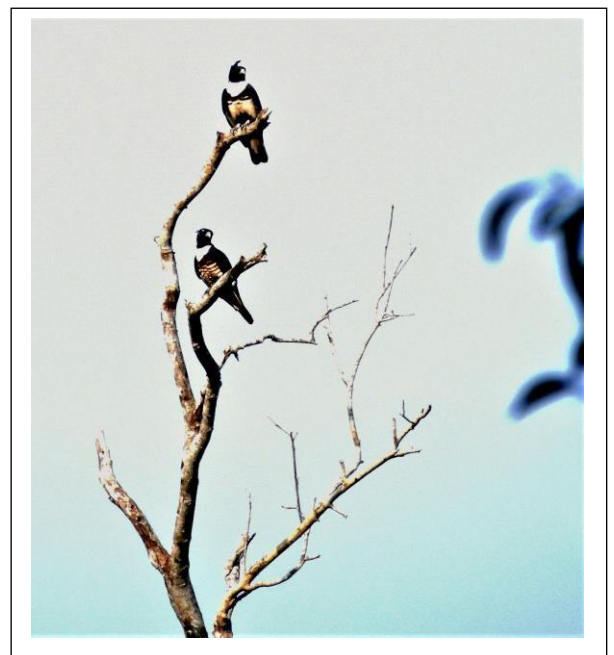
Argya striata Dumont

Common name: Jungle babbler
Malayalam name: കരിയിലകിളി
Class: Aves
Order: Passeriformes
Family: Leiothrichidae
Description: Small to medium-sized birds found in the Indian subcontinent. They forage in groups hence the commonly known as seven sisters. These are non-migratory birds and has short rounded wings and a weak flight. The sexes are identical, drably coloured in brownish grey with a yellow-bill. They feed mainly on insects, but also eats grains, nectar and berries.
Locality: Hymavathi pond area



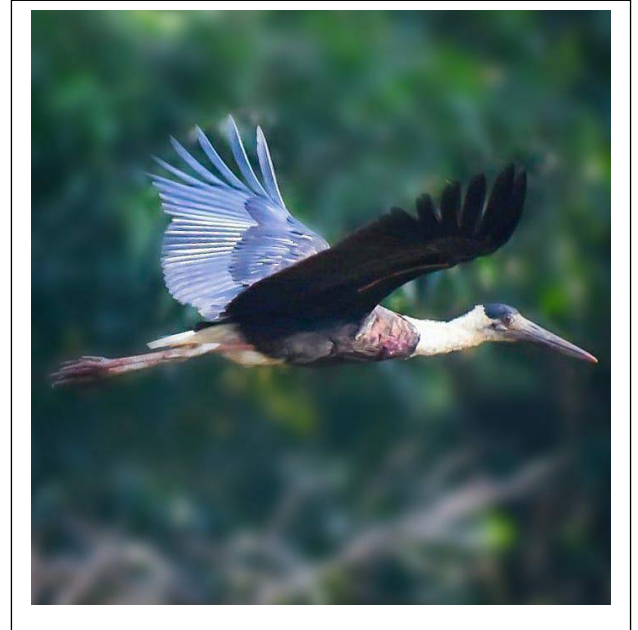
Aviceda leuphotes Dumont

Common name: Black baza
Malayalam name: കിന്നരിപ്രാപരുന്ത്
Class: Aves
Order: Accipitriformes
Family: Accipitridae
Description: A small sized bird of prey found in the forests of the Northeast India, the Eastern, Himalayas, China, and Southeast Asia. Many populations are migratory. The races in the Indian region are migratory, wintering in the south of the Peninsula and Sri Lanka. The black baza has short, stout legs and feet with strong talons. A prominent crest is a feature of baza. They are found in dense forest often in small groups. They are also known to spend a lot of time perching on bare branches of tall trees rising above the forest canopy.
Locality: Hymavathi pond area



Ciconia episcopus Boddaert

Common name: Woolly necked stork
Malayalam name: കന്യാസ്ത്രീകൊക്ക്
Order: Ciconiiformes
Family: Ciconiidae
Description: The stork is glistening black overall with a black "skull cap", a downy white neck which gives it its name. It is a resident breeder building nests on trees located on agricultural fields or wetlands. They use ponds and marshes inside forests in both Africa and Asia, especially in south-east Asia where they use grassy and marshy areas in clearings in evergreen rainforests. The woolly-necked stork walks slowly and steadily on the ground seeking its prey, which like that of most of its relatives, consists of amphibians, reptiles and insects. The woolly-necked stork is one of the species to which the *Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Water birds* (AEWA) applies
Locality: Hymavathi pond area



Cinnyris lotenius Linnaeus

Common name: Loten's sunbird, the long-billed sunbird (female)
Malayalam name: കൊക്കൻ തേൻകിളി
Class: Aves
Order: Passeriformes
Family: Nectariniidae
Description: *C. lotenius* is endemic to peninsular India and Sri Lanka. They are also known as birds of southern India. Loten's sunbirds are small, only 12–13 cm long, long-billed birds. The female has yellow-grey upperparts and yellowish underparts.
Locality: Trees and shrubs in the forest areas in Campus Ooty



Columba livia Gmelin

Common name: Rock pigeon

Malayalam name: മാട്രപൊവ്

Class: Aves

Order: Columbiformes

Family: Columbidae

Description: Rock pigeons are pale grey with two black bars on each wing. It has a dark bluish-grey head, neck, and chest with glossy yellowish, greenish, and reddish-purple iridescence along its neck and wing feathers. The iris is orange, red, or golden with a paler inner ring, and the bare skin round the eye is bluish-grey. The bill is grey-black with a conspicuous off-white cere, and the feet are purplish-red. Adult males and females are almost identical in appearance. Pigeons are naturally granivorous. It is distributed in southern and western Europe, north Africa and southern Asia

Locality: They nest on building ledges, and walls in the whole campus



Corvus macrorhynchos Johann Georg

Common name: Wagler large billed crow, jungle crow

Malayalam name: ബലിക്കാക്ക

Class: Aves

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Corvidae

Description: Jungle crow, is a widespread Asian species of crow. It is very adaptable and is able to survive on a wide range of food sources, making it capable of colonizing new areas. It has a large bill. Their wings, tail, face, and throat are glossy black.

Locality: Small woodlands in the campus



Corvus splendens Vieillot

Common name: House crow

Malayalam name: കാവതികാക്ക

Class: Aves

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Corvidae

Description: A typical crow, omnivorous, opportunistic and intelligent but, uniquely, it is a specialist urban commensal of man, very gregarious and aggressive. The forehead, crown, throat and upper breast are a richly glossed black, whilst the neck and breast area lighter grey-brown in colour. The wings, tail and legs are black. *C. splendens* is of Asiatic origin.

Locality: Whole campus



Dendronanthus indicus Gmelin

Common name: Forest Wagtail

Malayalam name: കാട്ടുവാലുകുലുക്കി

Class: Aves

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Motacillidae

Description: The forest wagtail is a medium-sized passerine bird in the wagtail family Motacillidae. It has a distinctive plumage that sets it apart from other wagtails. It is the only wagtail species that nests in trees. It builds its cup-shaped nest made up of fine grass and rootlets matted with moss and cobwebs. The nest is built by the female alone and the male stands guard nearby. It feeds on insects, spiders and other invertebrates. When disturbed it will often walk away from humans rather than fly, and even when it does fly, it tends to be a short flight after which it again keeps walking away.

Locality: Hymavathi pond area



Dicaeum erythrorhynchos Latham

Common name: Pale billed Flowerpecker

Malayalam name: ചൊക്കൊക്കൻ

ഇത്തിക്കണ്ണി കുരുവി

Class: Aves

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Dicaeidae

Description: The pale-billed flowerpecker is a tiny bird that feeds on nectar and berries, found in India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and western Myanmar. It is considered as India's smallest bird. It is endemic to the Indian subcontinent where it can occur in any habitat that is not too dry, too wet, or too high. The bird is common in urban gardens with berry bearing trees. The pinkish curved beak separates it from other species in the region. The bird is plain brownish to olive green. In forested areas, they often visit the flowers of *Loranthus* and *Viscum* species, the seeds of which are dispersed mainly by this and other flowerpecker species.

Locality: Hymavathi pond area



Dicrurus macrocercus Vieillot

Common name: Black drongo

Malayalam name: ആനറാഞ്ചി

Class: Aves

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Dicruridae

Description: A small Asian passerine bird of the drongo family. It is an all-black bird with a distinctive forked tail. It feeds on insects. It is a common resident breeder in much of tropical southern Asia from southwest Iran through India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka east to southern China and Indonesia.

Locality: It is common in open agricultural areas in the campus



Lonchura punctulata Illiger

Common name: Scaly breasted Munia

Malayalam name: ചുട്ടിയാറ്റ

Class: Aves

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Estrildidae

Description: A sparrow-sized estrildid finch native to tropical Asia, known in the pet trade as nutmeg mannikin or spice finch. The species is endemic to Asia and occurs from India and Sri Lanka east to Indonesia and the Philippines. Its name is based on the distinct scale-like feather markings on the breast and belly. The adult is brown above and has a dark conical bill. It eats mainly grass seeds apart from berries and small insects. They forage in groups.

Locality: Hymavathi pond area



Merops orientalis Latham

Common name: Green bee-eater

Malayalam name: നാട്ടുവേലിത്തത്ത

Class: Aves

Order: Coraciiformes

Family: Meropidae

Description: This species is a richly coloured, slender bird. The entire plumage is bright green and tinged with blue especially on the chin and throat. The crown and upper back are tinged with golden rufous. The wings are green. bee-eaters predominantly eat insects, especially bees, wasps and ants.

Locality: Hymavathi pond area



Nisaetus cirrhatus Gmelin

Common name: Marsh hawk-eagle, Indian crested hawk-eagle.

Malayalam name: കിന്നരിപ്പറുന്ത്

Class: Aves

Order: Accipitriformes

Family: Accipitridae

Description: It is a member of the booted eagle subfamily, with signature feathers covering the tarsus. It was formerly placed in the genus *Spizaetus*, being paraphyletic, the Old-World members being placed in *Nisaetus* (Hodgson, 1836) and separated from the New World species. It is an agile forest-dwelling predator and like many such eagles readily varies its prey selection between birds, mammals, or reptiles as well as other vertebrates. Among the members of its genus, it stands out as the most widely distributed, adaptable and abundant species. Categorized as a species of “Least concern” by bird life International

Locality: Hymavathi pond area



Photo Vishnu K. P.

Pelargopsis capensis L.

Common name: Stork-billed Kingfisher

Malayalam name: കാക്കമീൻകൊത്തി

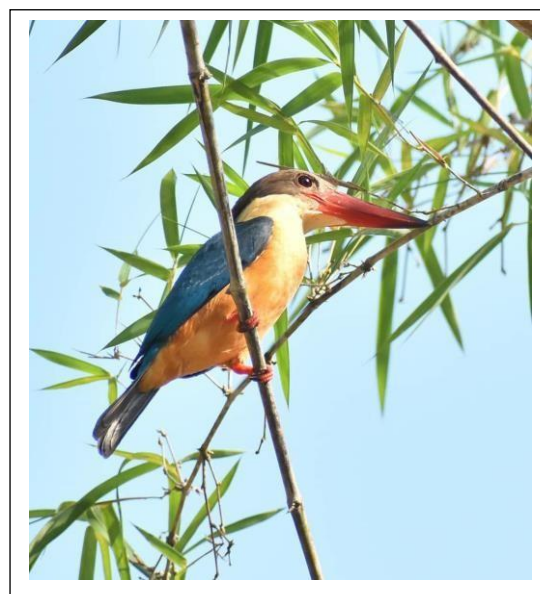
Class: Aves

Order: Coraciiformes

Family: Alcedinidae

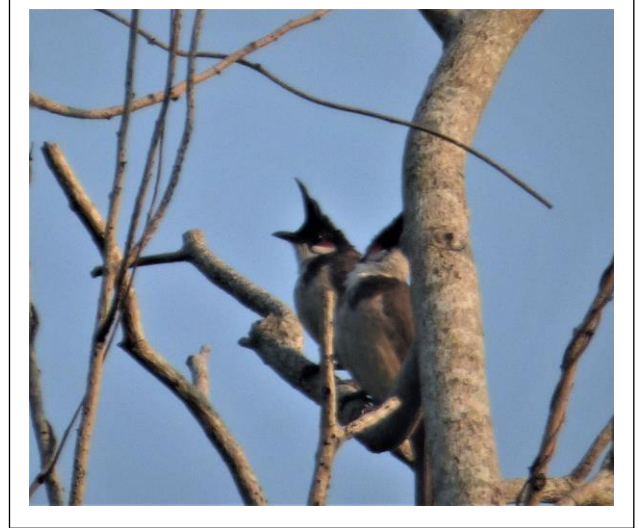
Description: Massive kingfisher with a large scarlet bill. It is widely but sparsely distributed in the tropical Indian subcontinent and Southeast Asia from India to Indonesia. Compared to other kingfishers, the stork-billed kingfisher is one of the largest species around 35 cm in length. The stork-billed kingfisher lives in a variety of well-wooded habitats near lakes, rivers, or coasts. Stork-billed kingfishers live in a family with an average of 6 members. This species hunts fish, frogs, crabs, rodents and young birds. Stork-billed kingfishers are important in controlling fish populations, and also has an impact on other small terrestrial species. Their role prevents fish populations becoming too high. They also serve as prey to larger birds.

Locality: Hymavathi pond area



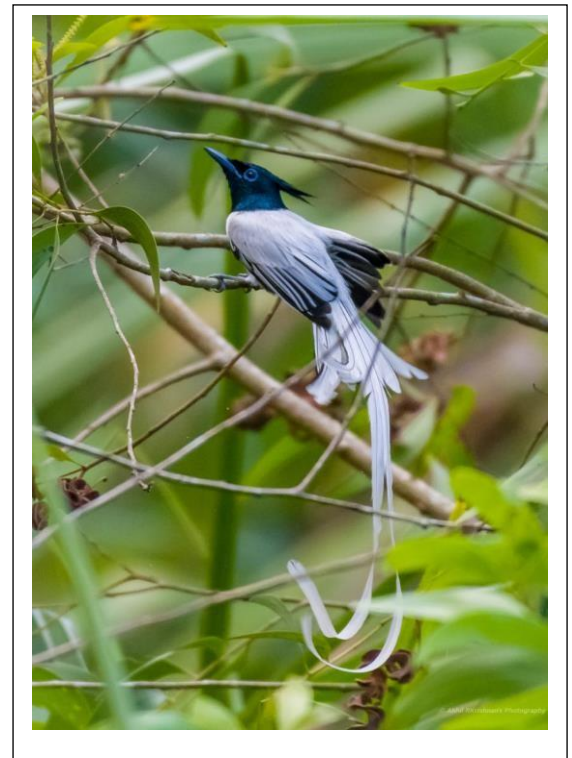
Pycnonotus jocosus Linnaeus

Common name: Red whiskered bulbil
Malayalam name: ഇരട്ടത്തലച്ചി
Class: Aves
Order: Passeriformes
Family: Pycnonotidae
Description: A resident frugivore found mainly in tropical Asia. It has brown upper-parts and whitish underparts with a dark spur running onto the breast at shoulder level. It has a tall pointed black crest, red face patch and thin black moustachial line. Tail brown with white terminal feather tips, vent area is red.
Locality: Hymavathi pond area



Terpsiphone paradisi L.

Common name: The Indian paradise flycatcher
Malayalam name: നാകമോഹൻ
Class: Aves
Order: Passeriformes
Family: Monarchidae
Description: A medium-sized passerine bird native to Asia, where it is widely distributed. As the global population is considered stable, it has been listed as Least Concern on the IUCN Red List since 2004. It is native to the Indian subcontinent, Central Asia, and Myanmar. Males have elongated central tail feathers, and a black and rufous plumage in some populations, while others have white plumage. Females are short tailed with rufous wings and a black head. Indian paradise flycatchers feed on insects, which they capture in the air often below a densely canopied tree.
Locality: Hymavathi Pond area



Threskiornis melanocephalus Latham

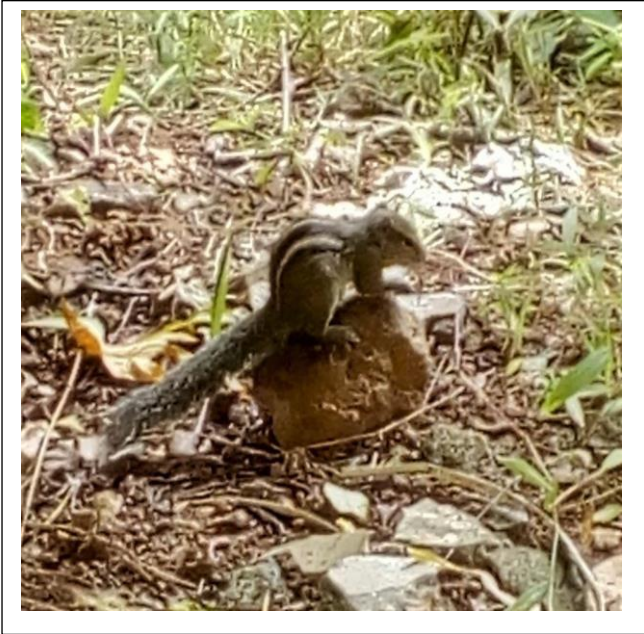
Common name: Black headed Ibis
Malayalam name: കഷണ്ടി കൊക്ക്, വെള്ള അരിവാൾകൊക്കൻ
Class: Aves
Order: Ciconiiformes
Family: Threskiornithidae
Description: A large wader with a white body and bare black head and neck. It probes into mud and shallow water with its long, down curved black bill, sometimes submerging its entire head. Found primarily around wetlands also seen foraging in dry fields and human-modified landscapes. The Black-headed Ibis breeds in South Asia and Southeast Asia from Pakistan to India, Sri Lanka east up to Japan. It feeds on fish, frogs and other water creatures, as well as on insects.
Locality: Hymavathi pond area



Mammals

Funambulus palmarum Linnaeus

Common name: Indian palm squirrel, three-striped palm squirrel
Malayalam name: അണ്ണാറക്കണ്ണൻ
Class: Mammalia
Order: Rodentia
Family: Sciuridae
Description: The palm squirrel has a bushy tail slightly shorter than its body. The back is grey-brown colour with three conspicuous white stripes which run from head to tail. The two outer stripes run from the forelegs to the hind legs. squirrels eat mainly nuts and fruits It is found naturally in India and Sri Lanka.
Locality: Found in grasslands, scrub vegetation, trees, plantations and gardens in the whole campus.



Pteropus medius Temminck

Common name: Indian flying fox, the greater Indian fruit bat

Malayalam name: പച്ചാൽ

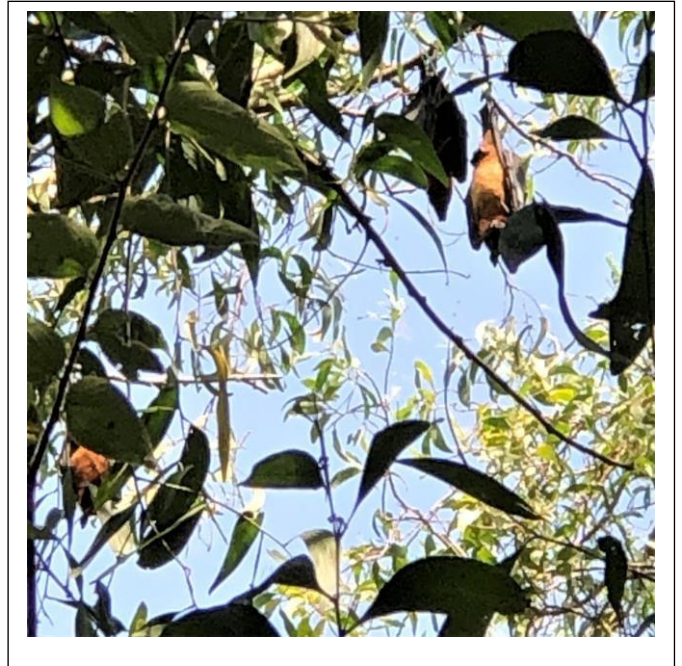
Class: Mammalia

Order: Chiroptera

Family: Pteropodidae

Description: It is nocturnal and feeds mainly on ripe fruits, such as mangoes, bananas and nectar. It is India's largest bat. The wings rise from the side of the dorsum and from the back of the second toe, and its thumb has a powerful claw. It has claws on only its first two digits of its wings. It lacks a tail.

Locality: Acacia plantations in the campus



Appendix: I

Localities

I. North campus

1. Botany Department
2. Centre for Evolutionary and Integrative Biology (CEIB) compound
3. Computational Biology Department
4. Sacred Grove

II. South campus (Main campus)

5. Campus Ooty
6. Environmental Biology Department
7. Geology Block
8. Hymavathi Pond Area
9. Language Block
10. Near paddy fields in Campus Ooty
11. Security Office Compound
12. State Bank of India (SBI), Campus branch premises
13. Teacher's Hostel Compound
14. Tulsivanam
15. Way to Campus Ooty